

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

Stamped Edition.



No. 757.—VOL. XXVII.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1855.

[PRICE FIVEPENCE,
STAMPED (POST-FREE) 6d.]

THE QUEEN IN PARIS.

This day, according to previous arrangement, her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain will make her triumphal entry into the city of Paris. The annals of modern times offer no event so remarkable;—few more important. The splendour of the ceremonial itself, the international courtesy and friendship of which it is the visible sign, and the influence that it cannot fail to exercise over the whole current of contemporary history, combine to exalt the visit, both in the imagination and the judgment of all who shall see or hear of it. It is not only Queen Victoria who visits Napoleon III.; it is England which visits France. It is two great nations—the greatest, the most powerful, the most civilised, and the most generous in the world—who meet by their highest representatives within the city of Paris, and testify to friends as well as to foes, how cordial is their alliance, how well-founded is their mutual esteem, and how enduring are the bonds of policy, of justice, and of friendship, that unite them now, and that shall unite them more firmly hereafter. The traditional glories of the Field of the Cloth of Gold fade into insignificance compared with the material, no less than with the moral, splendour of the occasion. It stands, and will stand, alone in history. Though by no means the first proof of the sincerity of the Anglo-French alliance, as the glorious fields of Alma and of Inkerman, as the destruction of Bomarsund, and, later still, of Sveaborg—as all the brave blood that has been shed in the Crimea or the Baltic—and as all the hardships endured in the camp or in the trenches during the long nights of a winter before the beleaguered fortress of the Czar, or in the cheerless seclusion of the hospital, can bear abundant witness—the British Queen's presence in the French capital is the most graceful as well as the most magnificent recognition of the pre-existing fact that the British and French

nations have not only learned to respect but to love each other. This mutual respect was acquired in warfare, happily at an end between them: their love grew in peace, and promises to be as durable as their national existence.

The interchange of these high courtesies has not been arbitrarily fixed. There has been nothing forced or prearranged about it. All has been spontaneous, natural, and timely. The Emperor of the French did not linger at the tardy heels of Victory to pay his visit to England. He came in the midst of the mighty struggle in which both nations are involved, to receive at the hands—and we may add, from the hearts of Englishmen—the solemn approval of the alliance, which it is his highest glory to have been the only Sovereign of France who had either the sagacity, the courage, or the good fortune to accomplish. In like manner, Queen Victoria did not wait for victory, either in the Crimea or in the Baltic, to return the visit. In the very heat of the conflict—while the guns are still booming at Sebastopol, and while, at the eleventh hour, the fire of the Allied fleets was opened against Sveaborg, and before the news arrived of the pregnant triumph achieved in the destruction of that fortress, she resolved to take advantage of the prorogation of Parliament at its ordinary period, and of her own autumnal holiday, to proceed with her illustrious Consort and children to the dominions of her friend and neighbour, in order that she might thereby testify to the French that the amity of the nations is not one of parchments and protocols—but of hearts. Victory is welcome on its own account; but France and England did not require the triumph which their arms have achieved at Sveaborg to increase their mutual good-will. Victory will not diminish their friendship; but ultimate defeat, if such a consummation be possible, which we believe it is not, will add to its intensity, and inspire them both to make new sacrifices and new exertions, and to put forth a strength to which all their past

efforts—mighty as they have been—will be but as dust in the balance.

Let the world look on. To the impatient people of England and France—who think every day lost that does not provide them with a triumph of greater or lesser import—events may seem slow. Yet they are on the march, and do not lag. All battles are not fought on the battle-field. The time is ripening, and will bear its fruit at the appointed hour. Statesmen, as most people now recognise, have been timid when they ought to have been bold; they have dreaded the beginnings of war, lest its continuings should prove too stupendous for their management; they have seen little beyond the necessity of setting a limit to the encroachments of Russia, but they have either not seen, or have determined to ignore, some of the most available agencies by which the great work might be accomplished. But time is unfolding the great page before them, that they may read it as they run. And the longer the war lasts, the more obvious will it appear, that those who are not with us are against us, and that, if Governments be not our allies, the people may. It is not only the Sovereigns of Europe, but the nations subject to their rule, who will behold through the press the grand spectacle which Paris is about to offer. Both of them will draw their inferences and conclusions. Both will see that the Anglo-French alliance is not a mere paction of diplomacy between an Emperor and a Queen, but a union that has deeper roots, in the judgment and the affections of two great nations; that it is founded on community of interest and sentiment; and that it will, in due season, be powerful enough to give the law to Europe. They will, perhaps, ask themselves (and it will be the better for some of these Sovereigns, if their reflections take that course) whether the holy alliance of nations may not extend itself beyond the limits of these two? and whether, as distinguished from their Governments, the



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO PARIS.—HER MAJESTY'S APARTMENTS, PALACE OF ST. CLOUD.



Germans, the Italians, the Hungarians, and the Poles, may not have their yearnings and their longings to make part of the brotherhood of civilised States? Statesmen have, for the most part, postponed all consideration of this question for fear of its consequences; but to the popular instinct in every part of Europe the idea, present from the first, has never been lost sight of. If, at the present hour, it force itself into greater prominence, or if there be any mischief near or remote lurking underneath its involutions, it cannot be said that the rulers of France or England have gone out of their way to kindle or foment it. Austria, if she had been worthy to call herself a great Power, might have put an end to the war a twelvemonth ago, and postponed for an indefinite period the, to her, ugly question of the Nationalities. Look at it as we will, the settlement of these matters, and the consequent rearrangement of the map of Europe, is a formidable, and may be a sanguinary and protracted, task. But the guilt of Russia has extended to her accomplices. The original sin of the war, that lay with the Czar Nicholas, has been transferred in great part to the heads of the twin Governments of Austria and Prussia. They had it in their power to secure peace to Europe; but had neither the sense, nor the courage, nor the honesty to carry out their fine words by brave deeds. On them will fall the punishment sooner or later—a punishment unconsolable by the reflection that they did not deserve it. When the Nationalities move—if move they must—it is these Powers who, perhaps even more than Russia, will be the sufferers.

One word on the more personal aspect of her Majesty's visit. Hitherto she has been the only lady in her dominions who, having the means and the desire to see the beauties of the gayest and most lovely city in Europe, has been prevented by circumstances from gratifying her curiosity. The Queen, like other less exalted tourists, has now the opportunity of reading a new page in the book of life, and of adding a more splendid experience to those with which travel has already enriched her mind. That she may be alike instructed and gratified by all that she sees; that she may learn from the example of Paris some of the remediable evils of her own great but less gorgeous capital; and that in all respects her visit may hold in her private memory as brilliant a place as it seems certain to hold in the history of both nations, are the wishes that are formed for her by all classes of her people. Certain we are that not merely her own subjects, but those of her Imperial host, will cordially and even affectionately entertain them.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

DECIDEDLY, notwithstanding the *entente cordiale*, Paris is at present not only invaded, but occupied, by the English, who have nearly put to flight the inhabitants. The theatres, the restaurants, the cafés, the boulevards, the promenades, swarm with our compatriots; lodgings become unattainable; hotels—*Ah ben oui!* as the peasants say when you propose something quite beyond all expectation of achievement. "English spoken" appears conspicuously inscribed in all the shop-windows—for which, in but too many instances, English cheated might, with propriety, be substituted. Not only do the *Britishers* arrive from their native land, but all those scattered over the Continent seem to have given each other rendezvous for this period in Paris; and the railroads from every quarter daily furnish a fresh contingent. Certainly her Majesty will find herself well surrounded with her loyal subjects wherever she appears.

In addition to the other preparations made to do honour to the Royal guest, the Emperor has selected from the public galleries—the Louvre included—some of the finest specimens of the old masters to decorate St. Cloud during her Majesty's residence there. For the apartments of Prince Albert a collection of hunting subjects has been chosen by his Imperial Majesty. For the fête at Versailles fifteen thousand invitations have been issued.

Abd-el-Kader has demanded and obtained permission to visit Paris on the occasion of the Queen's visit.

No doubt exists of the position of the Empress. So much care is requisite to preserve her against all fatigue and excitement, that it is almost certain she will be prevented from appearing at any of the fêtes in preparation, and will only be able to see the Queen in private; perfect repose being considered essential to her well-being.

Notwithstanding the active and constant efforts that have been made to prepare for representation before the Queen the opera of the "Santa Chiara," it seems that the event is materially impossible. In general, the time requisite to prepare the *mise en scène*, &c., for a work of this sort is six months, and here but as many weeks were accorded. As might have been foreseen, therefore, the question has had to be relinquished; but the work has, by the efforts that have already been made, progressed so far, that it is expected to appear before September is far advanced.

All the Corps d'Etat are to be presented to her Majesty during her stay. So numerous have been the demands for entrance by favour to the grand representation to be given at the Opera, that the only, and certainly the fairest, means of meeting the difficulty has been found to throw open the house to the paying public. Thus all who are able and willing to purchase the enjoyment have equal chances of obtaining it; and the sum collected is to be applied to the charitable purpose of adding to the fund for the aid of the families of those of both armies who have fallen in the Crimea.

The Prince Adalbert of Bavaria is now in Paris, where he preserves a strict incognito. He is accompanied by MM. de Thann, de Kœnig, and other personages. The Prince, in order to examine into all that he wishes to see, without breaking upon his privacy, has obtained a circular from the Minister of Foreign Affairs to all the Ministerial departments and the heads of the public establishments, to enable him to visit everything in detail under the conditions he desires.

Mme. Ristori having been induced to appear in French parts in certain private salons, it is said that fresh efforts are being made to induce her to accept an engagement at the Théâtre Français.

The Boulevard de l'Impératrice requiring the destruction of the old *baras* of the Bois de Boulogne, it has been decided that a new one shall be constructed at the Porte de Longchamps. The works for this are already in progress, and various improvements are to be introduced.

The *saison des eaux* is at its height, and Dieppe, Havre, Joinville, Etretat, Vichy, &c., are as crowded with Parisians as Paris is with foreigners. It is curious to see how, in these places, the French mania for gaiety, show, amusement, and dress, displays itself. It is generally supposed that people going to watering-places have some desire—it may be more, it may be less—to obtain quiet, health, and retirement, to rusticate a little. Well, carry such notions to a French watering-place—you go into the streets; there you behold flounces sweeping the particularly dirty streets of dirty villages; lace shawls serving as protections against sharp sea-breezes (for all the northern coast, where most of these places are, is extremely cold); fly-away bonnets, precisely like those you have just left figuring in the Bois de Boulogne. In the evening sounds of music greet your ears. You inquire to the *salon*. It is the *salon*—every night, Sundays included, people go to the *salon*. They hear concerts, they play, they dance, they dress, they get up fierce feuds and bitter rivalries; and, having

thus spent a month or six weeks of greater movement, and stir, and fatigue, and excitement, than in Paris, they return thither, persuaded that they have derived infinite benefit from the sea and the country, or wondering they have not done so.

KING BOMBA AND HIS SLAVES.

An inspector of police, called Gioberti, who, with a prudent horror of the name, has changed it to Ghiberti, lately ordered a bookbinder in Naples to execute for him the following device to stick in the bottom of his hat: "Costanza e Fedeltà al nostro Augusto unico Signore e Padrone Assoluto Ferdinando"—beneath the royal arms two hands clasped, two swords crossed, and a laurel. The man said that he had not the proper instruments for the completion of the work, and that, if many copies were wanted, he must entrust the execution of them to a lithographer, which was done. This person having finished one as a specimen, then, in pursuance of existing regulations, asked permission of the authorities to proceed with his work. Without such a permission not a man in Naples would dare to print or publish a word. This cautious step was, therefore, a necessary act of obedience; but it cost the lithographer his liberty: he was arrested and imprisoned for several days, and afterwards reproachfully set at liberty, because "he did not understand that some things were to be done from an impulse of devotion, and not with the usual forms of permission." The persecution now going on is, however, not confined to a class—it is sufficiently general—for even one of the highest functionaries of the kingdom has been compromised lately by a mistake—no less a person than the Procurator-General of the Grand Court of Accounts, Signor Troisi, officer of the Legion of Honour. He was visiting lately a married daughter at Avellino, and before leaving thought it the right thing to call on the Intendant of the Province. Most unfortunately he had in his case a card as Peer of the Parliament of 1848, and yet more unfortunately he left this card. Astonished at the incident, the zealous Intendant sent it to the Director of Police, who laid it before the King in Council. Troisi was therefore placed in a most awkward position, and the house of his son-in-law in Avellino has been subjected to a most rigorous investigation.

Even the military, who four or five years since had completely the upper hand, are now under the police, and incidents occur every day which could not have taken place in 1848 or 1849. When that authority was exercised justly and temperately this might be considered a sign of social progress; but when, as in the present case, it is a "pestilence that walketh in darkness," its all-absorbing and tremendous power is naturally a subject of dread. The feeling which exists between the military and civil authorities may be inferred from the following incident:—An officer, having been insulted by a policeman, corrected him with the flat of his sword. Sbirro laid his complaint before his superior. "Had you your dagger by your side?" was the first question. "Yes." "And why was it not used?" He was then driven from the presence with reproaches, and turned out of his situation. This took place at Caserta, and the officer was a Captain in the Engineers.

All the recent severities, playing the part as usual, both of cause and effect, may be traced, in some degree, to the discovery of two pamphlets, both supposed to have been printed in Naples—one entitled "Napoli senza Legge," and the other "Cinque anni di Assassini," both of them most violent philippics against the Government. The arrests have, therefore, been very numerous, and a bitter feelings have been awakened. It is said that on the 28th ult. no less than fifty-three arrests were made.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The latest dates from Bombay are, July 11: from Calcutta, July 4. The North-West Provinces are destitute of any news of importance; and Calcutta and Madras are equally barren. The Governor-General is still at Neilgherries. It is said that he will return to Calcutta in November, and take his departure for England at the beginning of next year, on the arrival of his successor.

There has been another engagement between the Nepalese and Thibetans, which has again terminated in favour of the former; the loss of the latter was considerable.

The most important event which the Bombay papers announce is the commercial treaty which has just been concluded by Sir John Bowring with Siam. Thus, one by one, the nations to the eastward of Hindostan—China, Japan, Pegu, and Siam—are brought within the pale of civilised intercourse, and thrown open to commercial enterprises, which will be beneficial alike to them and to the European family.

The following paragraph in a *Scinde* paper is very important, if true:—

It seems to be at last settled that a force is to leave this country for Egypt next cold season. What its ultimate destination may be no one appears to know. It is said that it will be composed with a due regard to the claims of each presidency, but that the Bombay troops will predominate, from the fact of their being so much nearer the scene of expected operations than those of the sister presidencies. It is pretty certain that the following will be something like the programme:—One troop Bengal Horse Artillery, three troops Bombay Horse Artillery, her Majesty's 14th Light Dragoons, two regiments of Scinde Horse, one regiment of Bengal Light Cavalry, two regiments of Bengal Irregular Cavalry, two regiments of Punjab Cavalry, one regiment of Hyderabad Cavalry, four regiments of Native Bengal Infantry, three regiments of Madras Infantry, one regiment of Bombay Infantry, and two regiments of Sikh Corps.

It is further stated that an officer from each regiment is to be left behind for recruiting purposes. This duty will of course devolve on a Captain in the Regular Corps, and on the second in command of Irregulars. It is also stated that extra officers will be attached to the Irregular Corps.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *Canada*, which left Halifax on the 3rd inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday forenoon. The political news is not of much interest. General Cushing has written a letter to the *Washington Union* on the subject of the Vienna Conference, in which he is severe on France and England, and complimentary to Russia. President Pierce has removed Governor Reed, of Kansas, for maladministration.

Intelligence from Santa Fé, New Mexico, states that Colonel Fontleroy had defeated the Utah Indians and killed forty of the savages. Business was very dull and money scarce. From Utah territory a week's later advices had been received. The Mormons in the valley or the great Salt Lake were anticipating a famine. All the crops were being devoured by insects, and flour was very scarce at the price of six dollars per 100 lb. Governor Young, who has commenced as lecturer among the Mormons, advises his brethren to take short excursions throughout the country with their families. This Mormon has no less than ninety wives, and a corresponding number of sons and daughters.

The Rivas (Nicaragua) correspondent of the *New York Herald*, writing on the 14th July, gives a detailed account of the defeat, rout, and retreat of the Walker expeditionary band, after an exciting contest with the Government forces.

THE LIMITED LIABILITIES BILL.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Umbelrde, Warwickshire, 14th August, 1855.

Sir,—It would have been far more fair if you had inserted my last letter, and allowed the public to judge of it themselves, than to comment upon it incorrectly. When did I say that commercial men of large capital were only competent to understand the Limited Liability Bill? What I did say was, "that as the commercial men in the House of Commons were generally men of opulence, and they only were competent to understand the matter, it appeared to be an opposition from capital." Then you say the eight or ten opponents to the measure were capitalists: you mean the speakers; but forty voted against it: and if you will examine the list of them you will find many commercial men of very long standing who are not strictly capitalists. I deny altogether that it is a Free-trade measure. The only freedom in the matter is to allow the companies freely to rob the public; and it is as completely separated with my views and opinions on the currency—which, however, I cannot find your previous notice of in your former article. As regards the results, there is no doubt that we shall all know them in time—as every one knows who held the last trump when the cards are out; but it is the duty of those who can see beyond their noses to endeavour to prevent future mischief. I am, however, glad to see that the Lords' amendments have taken the sting out of the measure; so that the mischief it would have done is so limited that the Act will be nearly a dead letter.

Yours faithfully,

G. F. MUNTZ.

SIR CHARLES EASTLAKE'S PRIZE.—The £50 prize offered by Sir Charles Eastlake, P.R.A., for the best painting by a local artist, was decided on Saturday last, by Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A., in favour of a picture by Mr. W. T. Roden, of Birmingham, called "Christ Healing the Man Sick with Palsy." There were twenty-two competitors, all of considerable standing.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A very remarkable instance of sudden death happened last Saturday morning, at Kensington. Mr. Hoof, who resided at Madeley House, was suddenly attacked with apoplexy, and expired; and the shock had such an effect upon his wife as to cause her death almost immediately afterwards. Mr. and Mrs. Hoof were in their usual good health on the previous evening.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

(From our Artist and Special Correspondent.)

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Aug. 4, 1855.

THE Woronzoff road, passing through our camps, reaches the brow of the hills overlooking Sebastopol at a place called by our own soldiers the picket-house, and by the French *la ruine des Anglais*. The latter is, perhaps, the fitter appellation for the place, which was a farmhouse, pulled down at the commencement of the siege by our engineers, who used its beams and joists for platforms. The ruin, too, is constantly occupied by English soldiers, who stop spectators and loungers from proceeding towards the trenches. The Woronzoff road follows the slope of the hills towards Sebastopol, and, passing by Gordon's Battery, is lost after a mile or a mile and half in the ground occupied by the enemy. At the extreme limit where we have been able to penetrate a small stockade of wooden stakes and a barrier of *chevaux de frise* were erected, and a picket was placed there to watch the ground. If the Russians were stopped by this obstacle, the English also were not without impediments to further progress in the direction of the town; and a Russian picket watched them at a distance of forty or fifty yards from the English. There is no lack of stories in Camp of pipes and tobacco exchanged at this point between the soldiers on each side. However this may be, the Russians conceived a desire to destroy our *chevaux de frise* on Thursday night, and they attacked it with a large force at ten o'clock. The artillery fire at that moment was slack; so that the sudden explosion of musketry at the bottom of the Woronzoff broke upon the ears of all with more than usual violence. Indeed—whether it was owing to the silence, or to a certain atmospheric phenomenon—the words of command of the enemy were distinctly audible in Gordon's Battery. On came the Russians in large numbers, with a terrific yell, and a volley which laid low some of the picket. The order, "Reserves to the front!" resounded that instant through Gordon's; and parties of the 7th and 77th bounded out with a "Hurrah" louder and deeper than that of the enemy. The Russians, in the meanwhile, had been doing their work in style; they had torn down part of the stockade, and were carrying off large numbers of our *chevaux de frise* for their own use, when they were assaulted, and their further progress put an end to by a spirited charge which drove them back into their lines with some loss. On one side I hear that fourteen men were killed and wounded.

This incident is almost the only one noticeable this week, during which the operations of the siege have been much delayed by thunder storms. From Tuesday to Thursday rain poured down in heavy torrents, which swept down the tents of the soldiers, and transferred many of them into duckponds. A new battery commenced by the Naval Brigade was seriously injured by it, and generally the trenches were in a most dirty and unpleasant state. Notwithstanding all this, however, the works of the advance continue to be pushed with unremitting activity, and our engineers may be seen burrowing on the side of the hill, within 120 yards of the Redan. The work was so far advanced in that direction last night that there were small pieces of ordnance there firing into the embrasures of the great Russian work, and annoying the enemy considerably. The French were to be seen on their side cutting their way slowly on towards the Malakoff, under the fire of guns from the Redan. All that can be done, however, by the chronicler this week is to report progress.

The storm, which impeded work at the front, was useful at Balaklava in showing that the arrangements made there were as yet imperfect, and unsuited to resist the attacks of bad weather. The streets were flooded with water, which settled on the roads, banked up as they are by the erection of new quays, and working parties of muleteers made their way through mountains of mud and foul stench to their several wharves.

The materials forming the embankments of the quays sank down, and settled into the harbour, shaking the foundations of the piers. In the midst of all this Sir George Maclean took possession of his new office, and every commissariat-office was in a state of hubbub and confusion. General Filder, who left Balaklava in the *Lion* (her spacious cabins he insisted on having all to himself), appeared to all to be succeeded by a very energetic man, apparently determined to see and know everything, and the men appointed under him seemed to second his views. It was a favourable opportunity for the Duke of Newcastle, who had recently arrived in the *Ottawa*, to become practically acquainted with the state of affairs, and compare it with what it had been at the time when his Lordship held office in England. Since the return of the clear weather the Duke has proceeded to the front, where he will become practically cognisant of the wants and necessities of our men.

The news from the Camp this week is very meagre. The only incident of importance was the Russian sortie, of which a good account is given by our own Correspondent, and in the following despatch from General Simpson:—

War Department, August 16, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Lordship by General Simpson, Commanding her Majesty's forces in the East:—

Before Sebastopol, August 4, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that on the night of the 2nd instant, between ten and eleven o'clock, the enemy made a sortie in considerable force by the Woronzoff-road. The strength of the enemy is computed to be about 2000. Their object was to destroy a heavy iron *chevaux de frise*, made across the Woronzoff-road, between our right and left attacks, and being further supported by heavy columns in rear, to take advantage of such circumstances as might present themselves.

They came on with loud cheers and bugling, and were received with great gallantry by our advanced picket, under the command of Lieutenant R. E. Carr, of the 39th Regiment, who withdrew his men, firing at the same time upon the enemy, to the main body, under the command of Captain Leckie, 39th Regiment.

A heavy and well-directed fire was opened upon the enemy by the party under Captain Leckie on the Woronzoff-road, as also by the guard of the trenches on the right of the fourth parallel, under the command of Captain Boyle of the 89th Regiment, and Captain Turner of the 1st Royals, which, in about ten minutes, caused the enemy to retire from an attack which, if it had not been so well met, might have been a serious affair.

The enemy lost four men killed, and some wounded were carried away. We had only one man slightly wounded in this affair.

I have the honour to transmit the returns of casualties from the 30th July to the 2nd August.

I have the satisfaction of informing your Lordship of the return to this army of Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, from being a prisoner of war. He expresses himself highly grateful for the kindness with which he was treated by the Russians during his captivity.

It is with deep regret that I have to communicate to your Lordship that Lieutenant-General Sir R. England, G.C.B., has been compelled, upon the recommendation of a Medical Board, to return to England. Sir R. England is the last of the general officers who left the United Kingdom in command of a division; he has remained at his post throughout the trying heats of Bulgaria, and the severities and hardships of the winter's campaign in the Crimea; and great credit is due to this officer for the constancy and untiring zeal he has exhibited in carrying out arduous and difficult duties on all occasions.

I have, &c.,

JAMES SIMPSON,

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c.

General Commanding.

Other letters from the seat of war give further particulars about the siege operations which are being carried on without intermission. The French works are now said to be within 100 or 115 yards of the enemy's position, which is as far as the engineers can go.

The report of an intended Russian attack on the Tchernaya is said to have had some foundation. The first news about it was brought by a deserter from Sebastopol, and his report has been corroborated by other deserters. General Liders had made all his arrangements for the attack, but an order, which arrived at the last moment, countermanded the expedition until the arrival of General Panlutin, who is expected with the corps of observation of Bessarabia, amounting to 70,000 men (on paper).

DESTRUCTION OF SVEABORG.

After long waiting, a blow has been struck in the Gulf of Finland which will reverberate from St. Petersburg to Moscow. The second naval fortress in those waters, and the third in the Russian empire, has been destroyed by the Allied fleets. May not the destruction of Sveaborg be the forerunner of the fall of Cronstadt—not this year, perhaps, but next? For although there is no deep water, as at Sveaborg, yet the success of the fleet goes far to prove that shallows need be no insurmountable obstacle to that immense flotilla of gun-boats now building for 1856.

The Allied fleet, consisting of seventeen English men-of-war, fifteen gun-boats, and sixteen mortar vessels; two French men-of-war, six gun-boats, and five mortar-vessels, left Nargen on the 6th of August, and anchored the same night among the islands, about five miles from Sveaborg. The shores were thronged with people, who saw the magnificent and powerful ships come onward to their destination. The particulars of the operations by which the great result was obtained have not yet been received, but it appears to have been a part of the programme that the gun-boats and mortar-vessels should open the bombardment at 2500 yards; and as some of the islands lie at that distance from the innermost verge of the forts, we presume that a portion of them, at least, took up their position behind these natural barricades, somewhat on the flank of the main defences. The citadel of the fortress is Wargön, which the Russians state was "almost entirely bombproof." It is behind this that the Swedes constructed the spacious docks and basins of the place, and it is within the fort of Wargön that the body of the founder, Marshal Ehrenswärd, is entombed. Since last year the enemy had strengthened the casemated granite batteries by earthworks at various points; but Sveaborg was already a mass of walls and guns, and little remained to be done, except to secure the flanking positions on the larger islands and the main.

The following telegraphic message from Admiral Dundas was received at the Admiralty at a late hour on Tuesday night :—

Off Sveaborg, Aug. 11.

Sveaborg was attacked by the mortars and gun-boats of the Allied squadrons on the morning of the 9th inst. The firing ceased early this morning. Heavy explosions and very destructive fires were produced in a few hours. Nearly all the principal buildings on Voogon, and many more on Swarte, including those of the arsenals and dockyards, are burnt. Few casualties have occurred, and no lives lost in the Allied fleets.

The following despatch, dated "Dantzic, August 14," was posted up at the Paris Bourse on Tuesday evening :—

ADMIRAL PENAUD TO THE MINISTER OF MARINE.

On board the *Tourville*, Aug. 11, 1855.

The bombardment of Sveaborg by the Allied squadrons has been attended with complete success. An immense conflagration, which lasted for forty-five hours, has destroyed nearly all the storehouses and magazines of the Arsenal, which is a complete ruin. Various powder-magazines and stores of projectiles blew up. The enemy has received a terrible blow, and suffers an enormous loss. Our loss is insignificant in men, and nothing whatever in matériel. The crews are in a state of enthusiasm.

Private despatches speak of the destruction of the dockyards, the town, the earthworks, the batteries; and it is very satisfactory to find that this great exploit has cost an "insignificant" loss of life, and no loss whatever of matériel.

The destruction of Sveaborg is the crowning result of our operations on the south coast of Finland. Captain Yelverton and Captain Vausitt had already destroyed all the forts between Wiborg and Helsingfors—Fredrikshamn, Kotka, and Swarholm. Although the military results of this naval campaign, terminating with a victory, are not very important, yet we must not overlook their moral and political effect upon Germany and the Scandinavian States. We have now given a strong indication that there is nothing Russian in the Gulf of Finland that our armaments cannot reach; and, even if the fall of Cronstadt should be postponed to next year, the nation will feel pretty well assured that the doom of that robber's den is now sealed.

The fortress of Sveaborg is built on granite isles, about a mile in advance of Helsingfors, the Russian capital of Finland, as Abo was formerly its Swedish capital. The isles in question, eight in number, are mere rocks, connected together by a strong fortification; and in the centre is situated the port where the Russian flotilla is placed. The largest of the rocks is that called Gustavus' Sword, on which is built the residence of the Governor, with a sort of garden, formed of mould brought from the mainland; and a vast cistern, in which is heaped together a large quantity of snow in winter, to furnish water to the garrison. Sveaborg has been called the Gibraltar of the North; it would seem, however, not with so much justice as was formerly thought, since the bombardment shows it to be anything but impregnable.

[We shall give several illustrations of the destruction of Sveaborg, from Sketches taken on the spot by our Artist, Mr. Carmichael.]

THE WHITE SEA.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following report, addressed by Capt. Guilbert, commanding the French frigate *Cicopâtre*, in the White Sea, and dated June 28th :—

I have the honour to inform you that on the 15th I arrived before the Bar of Archangel, where I effected my junction with the English division. The White Sea became this year free from ice before the end of May, and several neutral vessels, taking advantage of the open navigation, repaired to Archangel, and some even took in cargo and left the port before the arrival of the English. We thought it our duty to address the consuls, authorising the others to withdraw, either in ballast or with those portions of their cargo which they already had taken on board before the first notification of the blockade. I have reason to believe that all have now left: they are, for the most part, Norwegians, Americans, and from Bremen, the latter of considerable tonnage. All were loaded with corn and flour. The Danish ship *Chase*, in favour of which I last year granted permission to return to Archangel, during the blockade, on account of serious damage, has now left under safe conduct.

The steamers *Petrel* and *Cocyte* did not rejoin me until the 23rd, having been delayed by bad weather on the voyage from Hammerfest.

THEATRE DES ZOUAVES, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(From our Artist and Special Correspondent.)

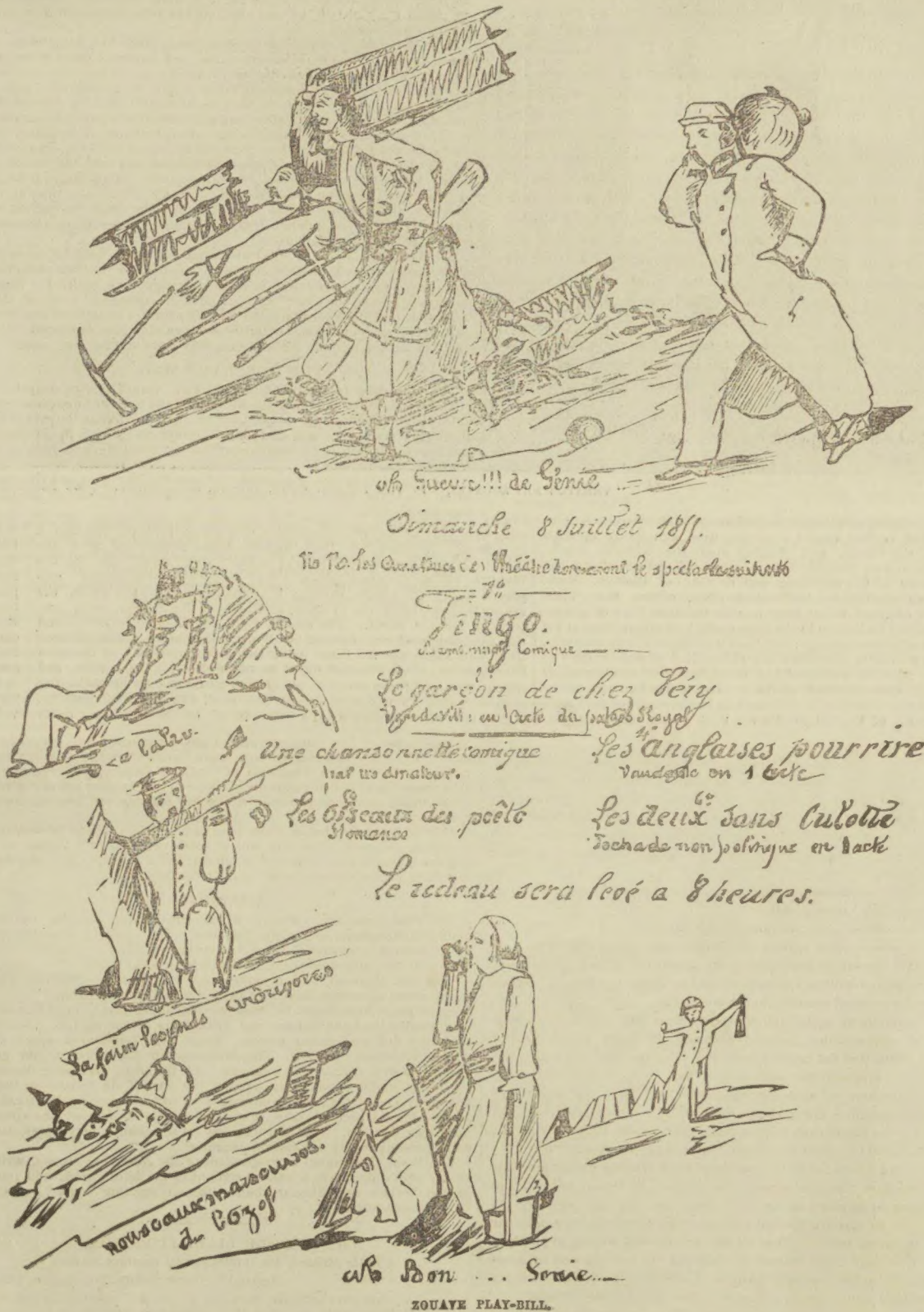
THERE are few amusements in which soldiers encamped as ours are before Sebastopol can indulge. The officers themselves are unable to find any means of whiling away time in the intervals of labour. Some horse-racing and a few dog-hunts were tried, but these sports were necessarily abandoned at the onset of the tremendous heats which render motion in the daytime all but impossible. In every pursuit, however, where a will exists, a way may be found; and in the cool evenings our soldiers may be seen engaged in one of two or three games which are now the favourites of the Camp. One of them is a species of bowling with small cannon-balls, in which the object of the players seems to be who shall soonest fill nine small holes sunk in the earth at various points of a large square. Another game is that of skittles, in which few can indulge, because there are but few skittles in Camp. In the trenches a popular amusement is for the men to erect mimic batteries of earth against each other. Miniature mortar-beds are erected, and minié rifle-balls, from which the iron cups have been extracted, having touch-holes drilled in them, serve to keep up a fire of small stones, which batter very prettily the enemy's works. All these amusements are, however, thrown into the shade by the amateur theatricals played every Sunday evening in the camp of the Zouaves, by a few clever actors of the various regiments. After two or three of the first nights, it was noticed with regret that the theatre was closed. *Relâche*, as the French say, not *pour cause d'indisposition*, but *pour cause de mort*. The acting of the amateurs ceased for a time, their services having been required on other scenes, where they performed more heroic feats. Yet see how contagious is the pursuit of pleasure! The first batch of actors had no sooner been thus painfully deprived of all future pleasures than others, equal in ardour and almost as much so in skill, took their place, and the performances resumed their accustomed routine, diversified now and then by the volunteer song of some English *lusty*, whose voice quavered out a doleful or a merry ditty, as the case might be, unmindful of the stern rigours of Lord Grovesnor's Act, whose terrors were about that time threatening the London public. Nor were the English unrepresented in the audience; and as actors had been found amongst our ranks, so likewise were numerous auditors, who listened, with the decorous and serious

attention peculiar to Britons, to the queer jokes perpetrated by the comic Zouaves.

The theatre, which is not far from the mill near Inkerman—with which I am confident all your readers are well acquainted—consists of a large canvas cloth, originally intended as a cover for forage, and elaborately marked "Substances Militaires." This canvas is stretched over a slight but ingenious wooden framework. A screen, on which is written "Entrée du Théâtre," is guarded by Zouaves, who keep away the press from a pretty vivandière holding in her hand a hat into which the audience drop their contributions as they enter. No fixed price is paid for admission, but each gives of his wealth what he can: knowing that, however little his gift may be, it is acceptable to the poor prisoners made by the Russians before Sebastopol. The passage into this theatre, as I entered it last Sunday, in a dark moonless night, was very striking:—The audience had already taken their seats upon earthen elevations or ridges left by the pick which had scooped out the parallel ditches in which their feet rested. The whole of the area on which these seats were formed was sunk below the surrounding plain, and a wall of stones inclosed the whole, on which crowds of soldiers, too poor and too numerous to enter, were assembled. A few broad paper lanterns, stuck on the ends of poles, lighted up in dusky outlines the forms of the spectators, whilst the footlights threw out in bold relief the forms of the Zouaves who played in the orchestra. The drop, a matchless piece of scene-painting, represented a gigantic eagle with outspread wings, in a space closed in by curtains of the colour and appearance of camp blankets; on his left a melancholy and nude lady was seated on a bundle of sticks, playing on a lyre;

whilst on the right sat a pensive Roman warrior, like Marius, turning his back upon the ruins of Sebastopol.

A grotesque *chansonnette* commenced the entertainment, and by the time the curtain rose upon "Le Bal des Sauvages"—a play, of which the first act bore the title of "La Boutique du Père Blavet"—the whole of the inner space forming the pit was filled with officers of all nations, commissioned and non-commissioned, most of them smoking short clay pipes, lighted by extracting the candles from the paper lanterns about them. Jokes of a somewhat gross tendency were flying about the pit as the audience contemplated the buxom charms of *Mademoiselle Camomille*, a sergeant of Zouaves, and the sprightly daughter of an herboriste. The leer intended for bewitching smile, the voice toned down to a would-be feminine key, were inexhaustible subjects of laughter and merriment; whilst the somewhat coarse and open allusions of the actors were met with demonstrations of unfigned gratification and pleasure. Besides these, however, there were not a few allusions to present circumstances; and the "gag" of some of the performers was almost as sprightly as that of Wright, at the Adelphi, when he indulges in sly jokes which diligent readers seek for in vain in the published play. Roars of laughter greeted the bamboozled father of the virtuous *Camomille* when, discovering that lady at supper with three *paillasses*, after a masked ball, he rushes single-handed on the ravishers, crying out—"Ah! vous voulez faire passer le Danube à ma fille. Eh bien! vous allons commencer notre petite guerre d'Orient." An amusing by-play was that of a moustachioed German perpetually thrusting in his oar and always backing out at critical moments.



The acting was very good, and the pleasure it afforded was enhanced by the details of a background, consisting of brilliant flashes and sharp explosions, which told us that whilst we were enjoying ourselves in one place, the duty of our armies was not neglected, and the enemy was still pressing us as of old. The audience were one and all too much accustomed to these sounds to pay much attention to them; but, just as the sallies of the actors caused most merriment, our ears were greeted with such a terrific outburst of flashes and explosions that the performance suddenly came to a stand-still. The curtain dropped as the audience almost by enchantment disappeared. The soldiers glided away like ghosts from the sides of the outer wall of the theatre. Officers, emerging from the pit, sought their horses, which impatient men were itching to let go, and all was momentary tumult and confusion. The roar of artillery, the crash of shells of all dimensions, the din of human voices, and a supernatural light which seemed to start into the air at the nearest point, and run like lightning from end to end of the hostile lines, greeted us as we made our way towards Cathcart's-hill, where the best view was known to exist. From this point were visible, in greater detail, the mass and variety on both sides. Human forms it was impossible to distinguish, but the dark sky was alive with fiery balls, whilst the broad flash of the 13-inch, the scintillation of exploding shells, and the sharp-pointed flame of rifles, proclaimed a busy and numerous force on both sides. It did not seem, however, that the chief firing was outside the works of either party. So close are the hostile positions that they blazed at each other from their several fortifications, and death was dealt

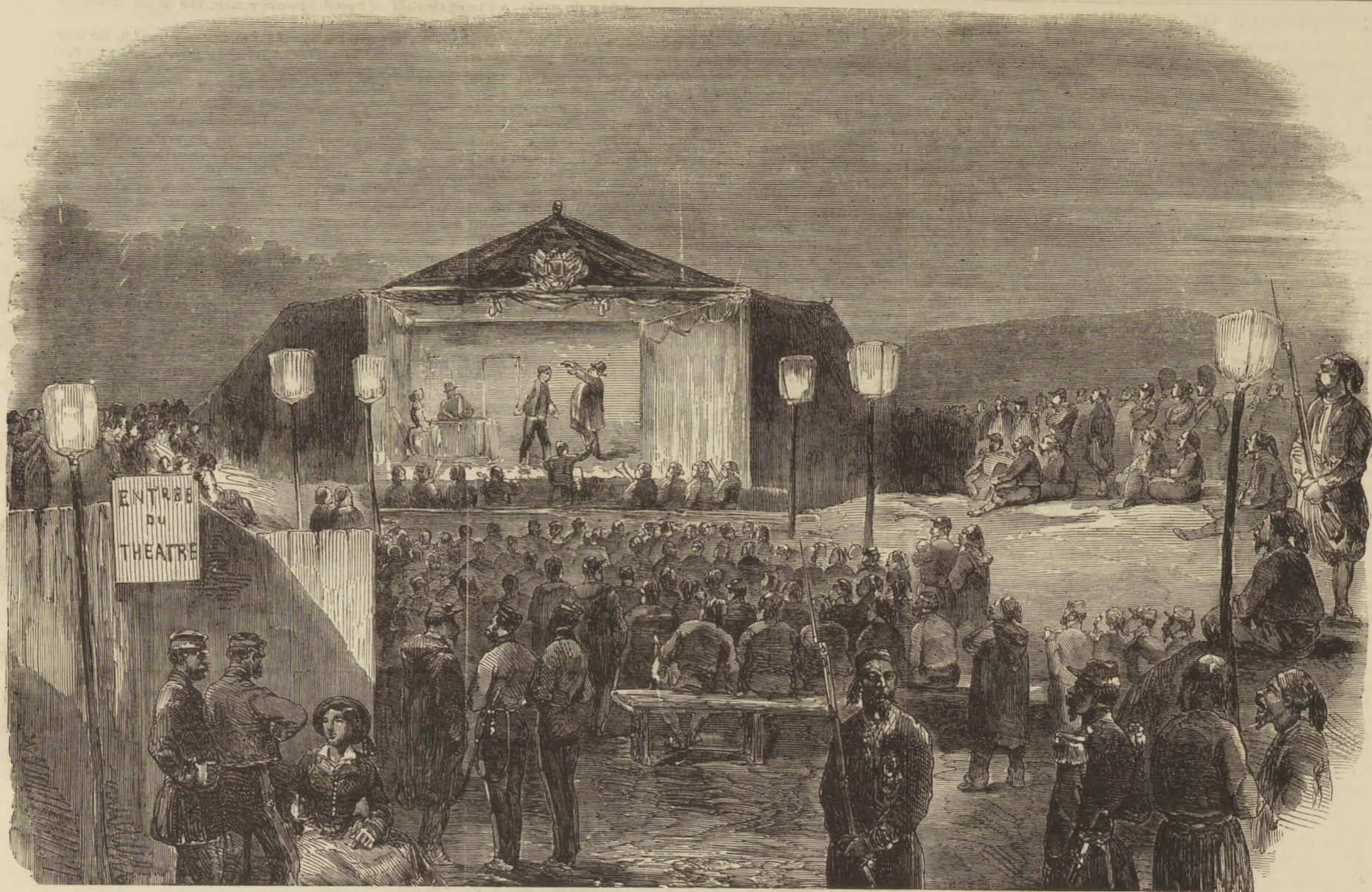
round more by explosive projectiles than by direct fire. The cause of this terrific outburst was a large French working party exposed to view on the sides of the Malakoff. At first it was annoyed by bullets and small shells, five or six of which, fired from a large mortar, are ignited together, and form what is called a *bouquet*; then the works of the Mamelon took up their part, and gradually the whole line was engaged in the murderous fire I have described. The effect was to stop the works for the night; the trenches in the advance being untenable till two in the morning, when the firing ceased. You may judge from this to what interruptions our engineers are now subject, and how long and difficult it is to build strong works in such dangerous proximity to the enemy.

I inclose you the lithographed play-bill issued by the Zouaves on this occasion, which will no doubt amuse your readers.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT NAPLES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE whole of the Quartigie del Mercato, in Naples, on the 13th ult., was alarmed by a fearful accident, of which the accompanying representation conveys as accurate an idea as recollection will enable the artist to furnish. It was shortly before mid-day when a terrible explosion was heard to proceed from the interior of Castello Nuovo, from its architecture and history one of the most interesting buildings in the capital. The alarm was communicated to the whole neighbourhood. Every one in the streets fled. In the Largo del Castello, La Posta, Marina, the Porto, the shops

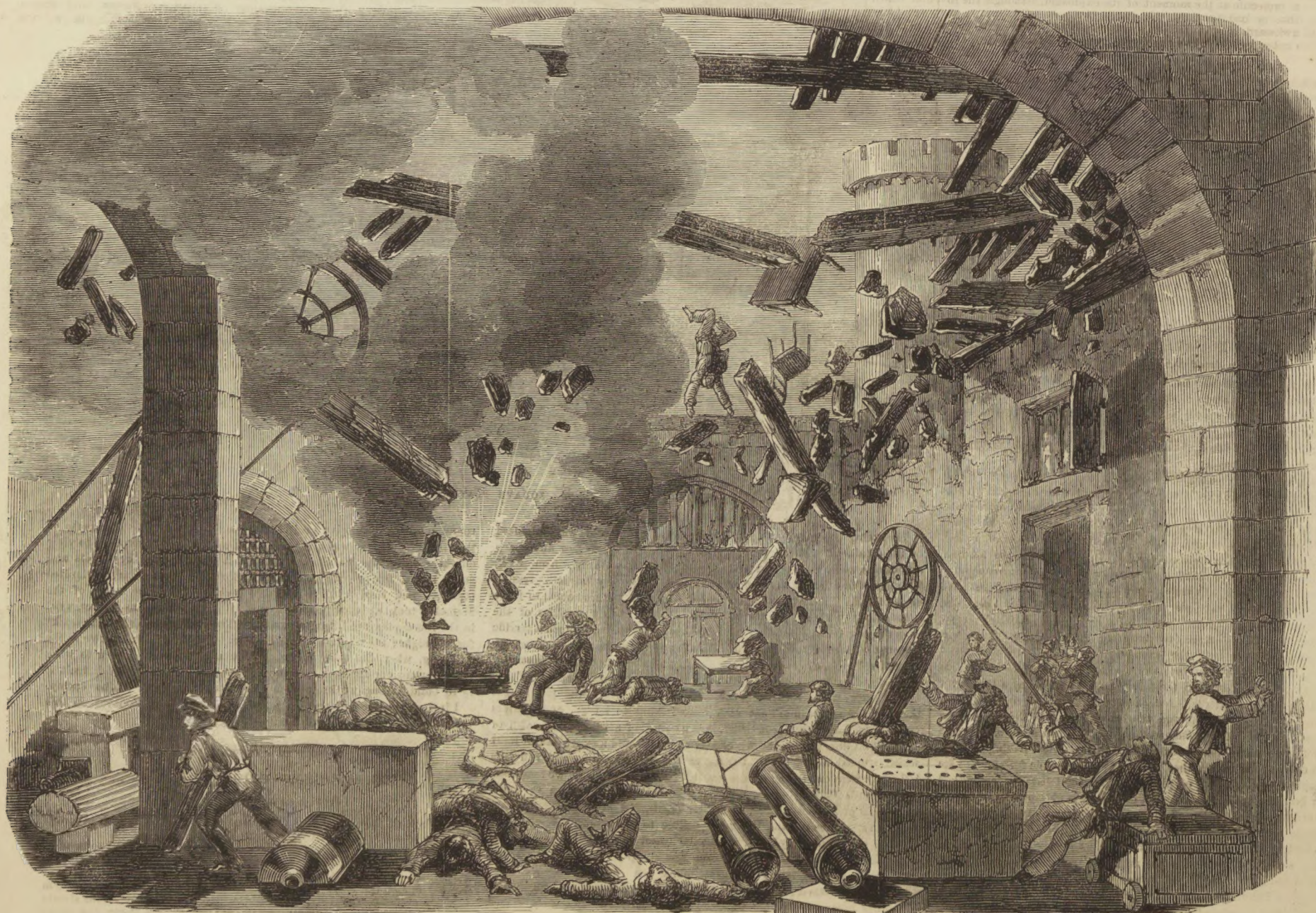


"THEATRE DES ZOUAVES," IN THE FRENCH CAMP, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

were immediately closed, as though the disorders of 1848 were about to be renewed. The fact is that clouds of smoke were seen rising up from the interior of the Castle, and floating over the adjacent streets, whilst with them were intermixed hats, caps, and clothes, stones and timber. The noise of the explosion was as that of thunder. Some thought that an earthquake had taken place, others that Vesuvius had broken out, and many that it was the first blow of a revolution. The accident took place in the rooms used by the Government for the manufacture of percussion-caps; but how it is impossible to ascertain, as most of those who were spectators are either dead or not expected to live; and those who are aware of any antecedent circumstances which threatened danger dare not speak of them. It is a wonder and a mercy that the accident was so limited in its extent, as in the vaults of the Castle an immense quantity of English powder was kept, which had been pur-

chased by the Sicilians in England during the last revolution. As it was, that part of the Castle buildings was blown into the air, and a considerable number of lives lost—various statements give the number from fourteen to thirty; whilst very many are in the hospital in a hopeless state. On seeing the workmen employed about the Castle rushing by hundreds out of the gates, the sentinels closed them, ran to arms, and pointed the cannon, as in preparation for the worst. The ground for a considerable space around the neighbourhood was covered with percussion-caps, whilst children have been annoying the sober with the eternal popping of damaged fireworks which were manufactured in the Castle for Royal fêtes, and which were sold for a small sum. The King came over the following morning; and, immediately visiting the spot, with his usual activity, urged on the excavations for the relief of the sufferers. Some

were found without their heads, others without arms or legs. Some were so blackened as to be beyond power of recognition, and many were fractured and destroyed by the falling of timber stones, and furniture of the upper apartments. One young man was found, half dead, two days after the accident, jammed between two planks: his arms were free, but his body was immovable. For some time they supported him by passing a sponge to his mouth dipped in water attached to the end of a long cane. After some time he was drawn out and taken to the hospital. It appears that some time since his Majesty pointed out some defects in the machinery, as he did in the large granary before it fell four or five years ago; in the dry dock also; and more recently in a building called the Maddaloni—in all which cases through inattention to the Royal commands, accidents took place, involving the loss of considerable amount of life and property.



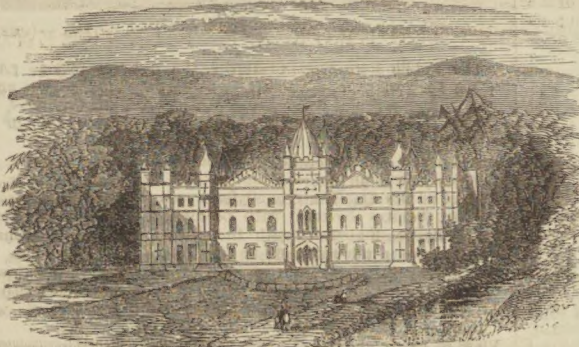
EXPLOSION AT CASTEL NUOVO, NAPLES.



CAPTAIN DISNEY'S WAR PROJECTILE EXPERIMENTS, IN THE GROUNDS OF MULGRAVE HOUSE, FULHAM.

CAPTAIN DISNEY'S WAR PROJECTILE.

A NUMBER of experiments have been made during the last few weeks in the neighbourhood of Chelsea Hospital, and, more recently, at Lord Ranelagh's residence, Fulham, for the purpose of testing the merits of a new war projectile, the invention of Captain Disney. From the accounts given it appears that the new destructive missile is a reproduction of the celebrated Greek fire, by which materials the most difficult to ignite under ordinary circumstances are readily consumed. It is said to be admirably adapted for use as a hand-grenade, as well as in other modes; and Captain Disney states that the chemical preparation which he employs, if the risk of carrying it out ready made is objected to, can be easily manufactured at the heat of war. Captain Disney also exhibited at Ranelagh a shell for causing temporary blindness among troops brought within its influence. Of course, the company present, which included the Duke of Wellington and a number of officers, took the precaution of keeping at a safe distance from so formidable a projectile at the moment of its explosion, although the inventor stated that he had prepared the charge in a very mild form, so as to avoid any awkward consequence to the company assembled. After the fumes of the explosion had somewhat dispersed, Lord Ranelagh passed through them



TONG CASTLE, SALOP.

without any injury to his optics. Other gentlemen who went up to the shell after it had exploded experienced some irritation in the nostrils, which some of them compared to the effects produced by Lundyfoot snuff.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

TONG CASTLE, SALOP.

ALTHOUGH the present edifice of Tong Castle belongs but by name, and the character of its architecture, to "Salopia antiqua" (the date of its erection being scarcely a century since), the site is one of archaeological interest. It lies in the district occupied by the Saxon chiefs, which they wrested from the inland Britons after nearly a century and a half of contests. Tradition points to the original castle of Tong as the residence of Hengist the Saxon; and, after having been owned and occupied by the Pembridges, Vernons, Pierreponts, and other families, the greater part was pulled down in 1764, when the present castle was erected on the site. It is a stately pile, of mixed Gothic and Moorish architecture, with an abundance of turrets, pinnacles, and domes, and is wholly built of stone. The castle stands in a rich and



REVIEW OF THE FOREIGN LEGION BY HER MAJESTY, AT SHORNCLIFFE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

well-timbered park, in the finest portion of the estate, a domain of some 2825 acres, in the finest part of the county of Salop. The pleasure-grounds and shrubberies, lakes, and cascades, contribute to the picturesque beauty of the estate, which is of great seclusion and beauty, and lies about twenty-one miles south-east of Shrewsbury, and ten miles east from Wolverhampton and Bridgnorth. Within the ring of the park, and about 600 yards from the castle, at the village of Tong, is an ancient collegiate church, formerly belonging to the Abbey of Shrewsbury, purchased by Isabel, widow of Sir Fulke Pembroke, in the early part of the fifteenth century, who rebuilt it, and made it collegiate for a warden, four fellows, two clerks and choristers; to which was added an hospital for thirteen poor persons. The church has a peal of six bells, besides "the Great Bell of Tong;" and it is rich in monuments to the Pembroke, and Skeffingtons, the Vernons, the Stanleys, the Pierreponts, Willoughbys, and other distinguished families. In the church, also, is "the Golden Chapel," erected by Sir Henry Vernon, in 1515, and now used as the family pew of Tong Castle. Near the church is a group of picturesque ruins, the remains of the old hospital, already mentioned. The entire property will be submitted for sale early in the ensuing month.

REVIEW OF THE FOREIGN LEGION BY HER MAJESTY.

THE troops recently enlisted into the English service in Germany and Switzerland, and who have for some time past been encamped on Shorncliffe Downs, near Folkestone, were reviewed on Thursday week by her Majesty, who, for this purpose, besides travelling a considerable distance by sea and land carriage, made a journey of upwards of 200 miles by railway. The inhabitants of Folkestone, duly sensible of the honour conferred upon them by her Majesty's visit, devoted their best energies for several days previous to beautifying the old town, and making as loyal an exhibition as the brevity of the preparations would allow. The fleet of the South-Eastern Railway Company stationed in the harbour were gaily dressed out, and the stores of the company were freely lent to the inhabitants to aid in the display. The Pavilion Hotel was decorated from end to end with handsome flags, and at the turn into the Undercliff-road a triumphal arch of some pretensions, composed of evergreens, spanned the thoroughfare. The quiet little village of Sandgate, which has been lately roused into most unusual action by the Camp in its vicinity, was not behindhand in offering a welcome to the Sovereign. Triumphal arches spanned its only street, and every house displayed the loyalty of its owner by exhibiting flags or evergreens.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, who had left Osborne at eight o'clock, arrived at the Folkestone Harbour Station about half-past twelve. The journey from Portsmouth had been performed over the Brighton and South Coast Railway as far as Hastings, and thence, via Ashford, over the South-Eastern Railway, to Folkestone. The Queen, who was met at the confines of the Camp by the officers of the Staff, drove first to the flag-staff, where her Majesty was received by a general salute, the bands of each regiment playing the National Anthem. After remaining for a few moments, her Majesty, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, Viscount Hardinge, and the members of the Staff, drove along the whole line, minutely inspecting each regiment as she passed. Returning to the flag-staff, her Majesty and the Prince alighted from the Royal carriage, while the troops marched past. The first regiment to pass the saluting-point was the German Light Infantry, which was in turn followed by the Rifle Battalion—the Swiss bringing up the rear.

After all the troops had marched past, her Majesty desired that the commanding officers of brigades and regiments be presented to her, a ceremony which was duly gone through to the evident satisfaction of the whole of the Staff. Her Majesty conversed in German with several of the officers, and complimented them very graciously on the efficient state of their regiments.

Her Majesty afterwards proceeded to the officers' mess-room, where an elegant luncheon had been provided by Mr. Breach, the famous host of the Pavilion Hotel. Her Majesty honoured Mr. Breach by inspecting his kitchen arrangements, and subsequently partook of luncheon; the principal officers of the Staff being invited to sit at the Royal table. The Queen arrived at Folkestone at half-past three o'clock, and, re-entering the South-Eastern train, retraced her journey over that line as far as Hastings, under conduct of Captain Barlow, General Manager. The South Coast Company took her Majesty forward to Portsmouth, where the Royal party arrived safely at half-past six o'clock.

The following general order has been issued from the Horse Guards, dated August 10:—

The General Commanding-in-Chief has received the Queen's commands to express to Colonel Hans Sulzberger, and the officers and men of the British Swiss Legion, the high satisfaction with which her Majesty, in passing down their line yesterday, witnessed the soldierlike appearance of this trained body of men, ready for any service. The characteristic courage and fidelity of Swiss soldiers will ensure for the Legion, on joining her Majesty's forces in the East, that cordial welcome from their comrades of the British Army to which brave men are ever entitled. This general order will be communicated to the Swiss Legion by Colonel Kinloch, Inspector-General.

OXFORD, WORCESTER, AND WOLVERHAMPTON RAILWAY. OPENING OF THE CHIPPING NORTON BRANCH.

THE opening of this short branch, four miles and a half in length, took place August 10th. The principle on which it has been constructed, and the small cost per mile, merit special notice. A dinner was given at the Town-hall in celebration of the completion. About 120 persons sat down at table; the Mayor presiding. The cost of the line, which does not present any engineering difficulties, has been £26,000, including stations. One-half of this amount has been subscribed by the inhabitants of Chipping Norton, and the other by Sir Morton Peto, Bart., who constructed the line. The feeling of the town was an enthusiastic one on the occasion. The whole of the shops were closed; flags were pendent from various parts of the town; the church bells rang a merry peal; a very good brass band was stationed at the Town-hall, and occasionally played some inspiring march or national melody; and, altogether, the example set by this "independent" little place is one that not only does it infinite credit, but will, we trust, be followed by hundreds of towns situated within short distances from through-lines of railway.

At the dinner the Mayor (Mr. Bliss) was supported by Sir Morton Peto, Mr. Parson (the Deputy-Chairman of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway), Mr. Fowler (the engineer of that line), Mr. Lewis, Mr. Busby, and Mr. Johnson (directors), Mr. Wilkins (the Deputy Mayor), the Mayors of Banbury and Stratford, &c. A very excellent dinner having been disposed of, a considerable number of ladies, including Lady Peto and the Lady Mayoress, entered the room, and were escorted to some elegantly fitted-up and raised seats. The usual loyal toasts were proposed and enthusiastically responded to. "The Army and Navy" followed, as well as that of "The County Members."

Mr. Wilkins, the Deputy Mayor, in an appropriate address, presented a very handsome silver salver and bread-basket to the Mayor, as a testimonial from his (the Mayor's) fellow-townsmen, neighbours, and friends, of their estimation of his private and public character, and particularly with respect to the invaluable services he had rendered in carrying the Chipping Norton branch line to a successful completion.

The Mayor, having returned thanks, proposed "The Health of the Directors of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, and Success to the Chipping Norton Branch" (Cheers); and with this toast he would connect the name of Mr. John Parson, the deputy chairman (Cheers). Mr. Parson had rendered essential service to the people of Chipping Norton in his encouragement to the promoters of the branch, and was therefore specially entitled to their thanks.

Sir Morton Peto, whose health had been given with all the honours, took the opportunity, in returning thanks, of giving a short narrative of the circumstances attending his connection with the Chipping Norton line, which, as he observed, was a pattern which the promoters of our branch lines ought to follow. The days were past when landowners could obtain extortionate prices for railways for land (Hear, hear); the days were gone when the promoters of lines were content to buy off the opposition of landholders by giving to them any amount or accommodation works they required, with also a most heavy price for their land. He was a warm admirer of the late Sir Robert Peel in many respects, but that distinguished man never did so wrong a thing as declining to attend to Lord Dalhousie's conservative principle in the extension of the railway system of this country (Loud cheers). It is this country had spent £300,000,000 in railways that might have been constructed for £180,000,000, it was scarcely necessary for him to say that £120,000,000 had been lost to the country. Branch lines in this country were considered what was termed "suckers," and not "feeders," to main lines. Why? Because they had been projected to protect traffic or to annoy a neighbour, rather than with a view of developing the traffic of the districts through which they were constructed. And he might here express his conviction that if Mr. Langston and the landowners in this locality had not acted with the most liberal spirit, the probability was that, instead of £6000, the line would have cost from £12,000 to £15,000 per mile (Hear, hear). He thought that the principle on which this line had been constructed was one calculated to benefit the country through which branch lines passed; that it would give profit to the promoters and to the parent lines with which they were connected; and that such principle of construction would very largely stimulate the productive energies, and consequently increase the commerce of our common country (Loud cheers).

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, August 19.—11th Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 20.—Robert Bloomfield died, 1823.
TUESDAY, 21.—Blackcock shooting begins.
WEDNESDAY, 22.—Warren Hastings died, 1818.
THURSDAY, 23.—American War commenced, 1775.
FRIDAY, 24.—St. Bartholomew.
SATURDAY, 25.—David Hume died, 1776. Herschel died, 1822.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 11, 1855.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
5 44	6 2	6 19	6 39	7 0	7 24	7 50
8 29	9 8	9 19	9 49	10 15	10 35	11 20
Tide	0 2					

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THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO PARIS.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

for August 25, September 1, and following week, will contain
MAGNIFICENT ENGRAVINGS of every EVENT of INTEREST
connected with

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT

TO THE

EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

The Public Reception, Ceremonies, and Fêtes, will be faithfully illustrated by Artists of both nations, and no pains or expense will be spared in recording this great event. The SERIES of ILLUSTRATIONS will include—

The Arrival and Reception of her Majesty at Boulogne.	Grand Review in the Champ de Mars.
Arrival of the Queen at the Palace of St. Cloud.	The Imperial and Royal Cortège passing the Madeleine.
Grand Staircase at St. Cloud.	Visit to the Universal Exhibition.
Performance in the Palace Theatre.	Visit to the Beaux Arts, with Specimens of the Pictures.
The Royal Salon, State Bed, and Bureau.	Portraits of Prince Napoleon, M. de Ronville, and the Count de Morny.
Arrival of her Majesty at the Tuilleries.	Concert of the Conservatoire de Musique.
View of Paris, and Garden Front of the Tuilleries.	Reception of the Corps Diplomatique.
New Portraits of the Emperor and Empress of the French, and of her Majesty and Prince Albert.	Visit to the Grand Opera.
The Imperial Cent Gardes.	Visit to the Picture Galleries of the Louvre.
The Imperial Guides.	Grand Ball at the Hôtel de Ville.
Grand Reception in the Streets of Paris: Procession on the Boulevards.	Visit to the Opéra Comique.
	Drive in the Forest of St. Germain.
	Departure of her Majesty for England, &c., &c.

Persons wishing to subscribe to this series must order immediately, as the demand is sure to exceed the supply. Subscribers giving their orders to the various newsmen will be supplied in rotation as received.

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS OFFICE, 198, Strand.

BOMBARDMENT OF SVEABORG.—Our Artist, Mr. J. W. Carmichael, who was present during the above action, will forward us Sketches of the same, which we shall engrave as early as practicable.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1855.

As we announced last week, upon the faith of our private letters from the Baltic, the British and French fleets have attacked the fortress of Sveaborg; and, as we ventured to predict—on the faith of the spirit, zeal, and gallantry of the officers and men of the united Navies—the attack was signally successful. In far less time than could have been reasonably anticipated the fortress was destroyed; and, what adds to the splendour of the victory, without detracting from its value in any respect, it appears to have been unattended with the loss of a single life to the assailants. Sveaborg no longer exists as a fortress; and Helsingfors stands helpless at our mercy. Thus the achievement which last year appeared to Sir Charles Napier too formidable to attempt with the ships and the men at his disposal has this year proved of easy accomplishment to Admiral Dundas and his brave companions. It is possible that Sir Charles Napier was right in 1854, and that he had for his purpose neither proper ships nor properly-disciplined crews. If this be the correct state of the case, it shows that the interval has been well employed, and that no time has been lost in the Baltic since the deficiency was made manifest. But, if Sir Charles Napier were wrong in his estimate of the means at his disposal, what account shall he render to his country or his conscience? Success in 1854 would not only have been more glorious than it is in 1855, but would have been accompanied by the additional loss to the Russians of eight ships of the line, which, pending Sir Charles Napier's inactivity, succeeded in making their escape to the securer fortress of Cronstadt. On this point, however, even if Sir Charles were to blame, which we by no means allege, it would be ungenerous at this moment to dwell. It is sufficient for the country to know that opportune victory has rewarded the energy and skill of its champions. The destruction of Bomarsund was no

mean blow to the power of Russia; that of Sveaborg is greater still; that of Cronstadt, for which the public appetite is whetted by the last news from the Baltic, will be greatest of all. Not even the overthrow of Sebastopol itself would transcend it in importance; for, with Cronstadt annihilated, there would be nothing to stop the Allies from taking possession of St. Petersburg. This is perhaps too much to hope for, during the short interval that yet remains before the commencement of the Baltic winter; but in every case the country will be satisfied with what has been done, especially on reflection that not only by battle, but by blockade, the enemy is beaten and humiliated; and that, as a naval and maritime power, Russia is annihilated by the mere presence of our squadrons in the Baltic and the Black Sea, and that neither her hostile fleets nor her peaceful merchant-vessels dare to show themselves in any sea or ocean of the globe, with the sole exception of the landlocked Caspian.

From Sebastopol there is nothing new; but it is evident that a decisive movement, first against the Malakoff, and next against the town, cannot be far distant. It was not by accident, but by design, that the last great attack was made on the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. Neither will it be by accident if the next attack should happen to be made on the 15th of this month. That day is the fête of Napoleon—a day which the French Army would be but too happy to render more memorable than it is by a deed of glory, and in which the British, we are equally confident, would be quite as happy to aid them.

PARLIAMENT has once more separated, leaving us, this time, in the midst of a double crisis of the utmost interest. From the Baltic and from the Black Sea tidings of bloodshed and of triumph are hourly expected, but Ministers know full well the impossibility of detaining our representatives, at such a period of the year, to receive any news, however important or disastrous; and the gentlemen of England are released. Except as a matter of good taste, not to say dignity, there is not the least objection to the prorogation at this time. Parliament can render no aid or counsel, let the expected tidings be what they may; and the coincidence is only worth remark because common minds may, in their ignorance, consider that the instant selected by England for striking two tremendous blows, with each arm of her force, was scarcely that at which her senators should hurry away to their amusements.

The work of legislation has been but a small part of the occupation of our legislators since Parliament reassembled in December, 1854. Somewhere about 130 Acts have been added to the Statute-book, but very few of these have a public, and still fewer a general, interest. The Limited Liabilities Act, against which capitalists in one House and retired lawyers in another, gave earnest but impotent battle, is the most important measure of the Session, and the only one the value of which will be traceable on a large scale. The opposition to it has, during its passage through the Houses, been based upon certain plausible but transparent grounds; and as the measure, though valuable, will require amendment, it may not be uninteresting, hereafter, to watch the change in the tactics of its selfish opponents, when their theory of "danger to the humble speculator," and to the "moral tone of commercial relations," shall have been exploded. The Criminal Proceedings Act for expediting justice in the case of felonies excited the animosity of some of the lawyers; and we regret to see that Mr. Justice Platt, in addressing his charge at Liverpool to the Grand Jury, thought it worth while to utter sonorous absurdity as to "our glorious laws not allowing a fellow-being to be convicted unless the opinions of two classes of the community were given upon his innocence or guilt." Is it possible that Judges cannot see that our glorious laws, by the aid of our contaminating system of imprisonment, increase criminality; and that, instead of vaunting their glory, an enlightened administrator of the laws would best serve his country by pointing out their defects? In addition to these measures, there has been one for facilitating proceedings on bills of exchange, and one for abolishing, formally, a mass of restrictions on freedom of religious worship—restrictions long since abrogated practically, but which it was well to expunge from our statutes. It should be added that the fanaticism of certain ultra-Sabbatarians has reacted during this Session in a way they little expected; for their introduction of a new restrictive measure, tending to interfere with the domestic comforts and right of free opinion of the humbler classes, produced an excitement which not only swept away the proposed infiction, but induced Parliament to repair, rather summarily, the blunder of last Session in regard to Sunday refreshment.

The metropolis—the City, for the present, excepted—will be a great gainer by the Act for its local management, which takes the general care of the draining, lighting, paving, and cleansing of London out of the hands of the parochial authorities, and vests it in municipal officers, chosen by the people. The working of this plan of reform will probably decide the fate of the City Corporation, rescripted until next year. With this Act one of the metropolitan representatives (Sir Benjamin Hall) has to be credited; and it is satisfactory to record this, because, taken as a body, the metropolitan members are by no means regarded as up to the standard which should characterise men selected by so remarkable a constituency. And, while a species of constitution has thus been granted to London, the colonies of Victoria and of New South Wales have been similarly favoured, though the prognostications of those who are well acquainted with each place do not augur very successful results from the experiments.

Upon the subject of the Newspaper Stamp Act we have had so many opportunities of remarking, that it is not necessary for us to do more, here, than to record it as one of the achievements of the Session 1854-5. With this item, the list of public Acts of interest terminates. It is not either pleasant or profitable to recollect that we ought to have had Educational measures, Ecclesiastical Courts reform, a settlement of the Church-rate question, a Health bill, and a Marriage Law reform, to say nothing of the Irish Landlord and Tenant question, and that on all these subjects abortive attempts at legislation have been made, and finally abandoned.

So much for the Parliament, regarded as law-makers, whose function it will be probably considered has been very inadequately discharged this Session. We may next look at its proceedings in

another light. When the Session began the Coalition Ministry was in office, with Lord Palmerston in a subordinate position. It ends with nearly all the prominent members of that Ministry driven from office, and with Lord Palmerston at the head of affairs. Of the various fights and treasens which have marked the history of the Ministerial changes, enough and to spare has been said, as they went on. Some names which stood high have been irretrievably blackened during this time. Lord John Russell, untrue to his colleagues in the early year, and untrue to his country at a later date, has sullied, past redress, a name which had been associated with worthy achievement in other days; and Mr. Gladstone—fanatic in theory, and revengeful in practice—has chosen to be a valuable friend of Russia in order to be a harmless enemy of Palmerston. Sir James Graham, too, has performed the difficult feat of diminishing the remnant of faith which the nation had in him; and, by his mischievously-intended flight from office, by his Russian advocacy, and by his unhesitating endeavour to crush Mr. Layard by a charge at once unfounded and cruel, has filled up the measure of his disgrace. Of the Duke of Newcastle we need say little: his exit from office was well made, and it has only just come out that a little bit of pathos which intended to imply that his paternal as well as his Ministerial heart was in the ranks of the ruined army was only a little oratorical artifice. Mr. Sidney Herbert and Mr. Cardwell may be remitted to the oblivion to which their late chief, the Earl of Aberdeen, has been expeditiously consigned. Parliament, listening, applauding, jeering, voting, shouting, has been active enough throughout all these changes, and can hardly be accused of having meted out aught but substantial justice.

Finally, Parliament has had to deal with the grand question of the day—the War; and whatever shortcomings and misconduct may be charged against Government as a whole, or against individual statesmen, it cannot be said that the Parliament of England has been slack in its duty as regards a vigorous prosecution of the war. It has, throughout, spoken the sentiments of the people; it has been ready with its assurances of support to the Crown; it has not only refused no demand of Ministers, but, while voting with alacrity every supply required, there have been expressions of regret that even more was not to be done. Although the knot of peacemongers contains men who were prime favourites as orators—two of them confessedly the best speakers in the House—all their eloquence and talent exerted on the wrong side had no weight with the Commons, and the Minister has been constantly urged to renewed efforts against the foe of liberty and humanity. The war has disturbed the proceedings in Parliament as it has disturbed society everywhere, and many of the disgraces and failures of the year are due to this perturbing element. But, as regards the earnest and determined prosecution of the great struggle, Parliament has done its duty, and, on the whole, if it breaks up at rather a strange time, and with an apparent carelessness of the great events of the hour, it may be excused in consideration of the unfaltering aid it has given to the Government and to the Crown whenever its assistance was asked or its presence could be useful.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE DUKE OF SOMERSET.

EDWARD ADOLPHUS ST. MAUR, K.G., eleventh Duke of Somerset, and Baron Seymour of Hache, in the Peerage of England, and a Baronet, was the eldest son of Webb, the eleventh Duke, by his wife, Anna Maria, only daughter and heir of John Bonnell, Esq., of Stanton Harcourt, in the county of Oxford. He was born the 24th Feb., 1775. He married twice: first, the 24th June, 1800, the Lady Charlotte Hamilton, daughter of Archibald, ninth Duke of Hamilton, which lady died on the 10th of June, 1827; and secondly, the 28th July, 1836, Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart. By his first marriage his Grace leaves three sons and four daughters: the sons are Edward Adolphus Lord Seymour, M.P. (now Duke of Somerset), Archibald, and Algernon. The daughters are Charlotte, wife of William Blount, Esq., of Orleton, Herefordshire; Jane; Emma Maria, wife of William Tollemache, Esq.; and Henrietta Maria. Edmund, eleventh Duke of Somerset, was only seventeen years of age when he succeeded to the Dukedom. His Grace was a man of science and literature; he was the author of several learned treatises. He was for some years President of the Royal Institution, Vice-President of the University College, London, a Fellow of the Royal Society (having been elected a Fellow in 1797), a member of the Royal Asiatic Society, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and of the Linnean Society, and a D.C.L. The noble Duke was a Knight of the Garter, and Vice-Admiral of the coast of Somersetshire. His Grace died on the 15th inst., at the family mansion in Park-lane. He succeeded in his honours by his eldest son, Lord Seymour, M.P., who was born in 1804, and married, the 10th of June, 1830, Jane Georgiana, youngest daughter of Thomas Sheridan, Esq., and granddaughter of the Right Hon. Richard Brinsley Sheridan, by whom he has a numerous family.

GENERAL PEPE.

GENERAL PEPE died on the 8th of August, after a long illness, in the neighbourhood of Turin. His name is well known to the readers of Italian history of the last half-century; as, from 1799 to 1849, he had been actively engaged in every political movement of importance in Italy. General Pepe was born in Calabria, 1783, and in 1799 he sided with the French party in the Neapolitan kingdom, for which he was condemned to death; but his sentence was commuted to exile, on account of his youth. When Joachim Murat became King of Naples, Pepe entered the Neapolitan army and accompanied the contingent sent to Spain. In 1815 he fought under Murat for the independence of Italy, and continued in the Neapolitan service after the restoration of the Bourbons. In 1820 and 1821 he was the leader of the revolutionary party, for which he was again exiled, and remained in France and England until 1848. During this period he became acquainted with many of the most eminent men in both those countries, and was an intimate friend of the late Joseph Hume. In 1848 he returned to Naples, and was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the army sent to Central Italy against the Austrians by the Constitutional Government. At Bologna he received orders to return, which he refused to obey; but resigned the command of the army and repaired to Venice, when he was made Commandant, which command he held until the surrender of that city in 1849. With that event ended his long and chequered military career. From Vienna the General went to Paris, and continued to reside there until the *coup d'état*, when he settled in Piedmont, where his death occurred.

WILLS.—The will of the Right Hon. Lady Arabella Ramsden, of Oxtou-hall, Tadcaster, and Upper Ecclestone-street, Belgrave-square, was proved in London under £70,000 personally within the province of Canterbury.—Major-General Sir John Campbell, Bart. (at Sebastopol), £18,000.—Rear-Admiral Edward Boxer (at Balaklava), £15,000.—Richard Vyse, straw-hat manufacturer, Luton and Herne-hill, £100,000.—Miss Catherine McMorine, Plymouth, £20,000.—Miss Susannah May, Queen-square, Bath, £30,000; and has left to the Bath Asylum for Blind, Monmouth-street Society, the United Hospital and General Hospital at Bath, £50 to each; and the like legacy to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, Conversion of the Jews, Royal Humane Society, and the Society for Preventing Cruelty to Animals.

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS AND PREFERMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. A. Anderson to Oare, Somerset; Rev. C. W. Davis to Breane, Somerset; Rev. J. Fisher to Holy Trinity Church, Dorchester; Rev. T. H. House to Winterbourne, Zelstone, Dorset; Rev. A. Williams to Up-Cerne, Dorset; Rev. John Robinson to Bowness. *Vicarages:* The Venerable R. M. Master to Leyland, Lancashire; Rev. F. Ould to Tattenhall, Cheshire; Rev. H. J. Wilkinson to Hooton Pagnell, near Doncaster; Rev. John Farr to Gillingham, St. Mary and All Saints, and Winston and Windfall, annexed, in Norfolk. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. J. Lodge to Skerton, Lancaster; Rev. C. A. Perring to St. James's Church, Whitehaven; Rev. W. Shilleto to Admarth.

PROGRAMME OF THE ROYAL VISIT TO FRANCE.

The following is the programme of the arrangements:—

SATURDAY, AUG. 18.
Progress through Paris and arrival at St. Cloud, as already announced in the *Moniteur*.

SUNDAY, 19.
Rest.
At Six—Dinner *en famille*.
At Half-past Nine—Concert of the Conservatoire de Musique (sacred music).

MONDAY, 20.
At Nine—Breakfast at St. Cloud.
At Half-past Ten—Start in carriages for Paris.
At Eleven—Visit to the Exposition of Fine Arts.
At Two—Lunch at the Elysée.
At Half-past Two—Reception of the Corps Diplomatique.
At Three—Visit to the Sainte Chapelle and drive on the Boulevards.
At Half-past Five—Return to St. Cloud.
At Six—Rest.
At Eight—Dinner of sixty covers.
At Nine—Theatricals of St. Cloud. Representation of the Théâtre Français.

TUESDAY, 21.
At Nine—Breakfast at St. Cloud.
At Half-past Ten—Start for Versailles.
At Two—Lunch at Trianon.
At Half-past Three—Return to St. Cloud.
At Half-past Four—Rest.
At Half-past Six—Dinner *en famille*.
At Half-past Seven—Start from St. Cloud.
At Eight—Visit to the Grand Opera.

WEDNESDAY, 22.
Breakfast at St. Cloud.
At Half-past Ten—Start for Paris.
At Eleven—Visit to the Universal Exhibition.
At Two—Lunch at the Tuileries.
At Half-past Four—Return to St. Cloud.
At Five—Rest.
At Eight—Dinner of sixty covers at St. Cloud.
At Nine—Theatricals at St. Cloud, by the *artistes* of the Théâtre du Gymnase ("Le Fils de Famille").

THURSDAY, 23.
At Nine—Breakfast at St. Cloud.
At Half-past Ten—Visit of Prince Albert (alone) to the Exhibition.
At Half-past One—The Queen to start for Paris.
At Two—Lunch at the Tuileries.
At Half-past Two—Visit to the Picture Galleries of the Louvre.
At Five—Rest.
At Seven—Dinner *en famille* at the Tuileries.
At Nine—Grand ball at the Hôtel de Ville.

FRIDAY, 24.
At Two—Breakfast at St. Cloud.
At Eleven—Start for Paris.
At Half-past Eleven—Grand Review in the Champ de Mars.
At Two—Lunch at the Ecole Militaire.
At Half-past Two—Visit to the Hôtel des Invalides.
At Half-past Three—Visit to the Universal Exhibition.
At Half-past Five—Rest.
At Seven—Dinner *en famille* at the Tuileries.
At Half-past Eight—Visit to the Opéra Comique (Auber's "Haidée").

SATURDAY, 25.
At Nine—Breakfast at St. Cloud.
At Eleven—Start for St. Germain and drive in the forest.
At Three—Return to St. Cloud.
At Four—Rest.
At Seven—Dinner *en famille*.

SUNDAY, 26.
Rest.
MONDAY, 27.
Departure for England.

[NOTE OF THE EDITOR OF THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."—It will be seen by an announcement in another portion of our Journal that we have made arrangements for the complete illustration of every public ceremonial in the above programme; and that from week to week we shall continue to publish Engravings of all the most magnificent and remarkable scenes and episodes in her Majesty's Visit to the French capital.]

THE COURT.

This morning (Saturday), at daybreak, her Majesty was to leave Osborne in the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert*, for Boulogne, en route to Paris, to pay her promised visit to the Emperor and Empress of the French. We believe we are correct in stating that her Majesty has looked forward to this pleasant interchange of courtesy with her Imperial ally and his consort with feelings of the liveliest anticipation. Before this sheet is dry the Sovereign of Great Britain, for the first time for two hundred years, will be quietly settled down in the beautiful Palace of St. Cloud, after an unexampled ovation from the Parisians on her arrival in their beautiful city.

Recurring to the incidents of the past week, the Privy Council held on Monday stands first in order and importance. At the Council the Royal Speech for closing the present Session of Parliament was arranged and approved. Mr. Robert Lowe, Mr. William Monsell, the Hon. William Cowper, and Rear-Admiral the Hon. M. F. Berkeley, were, by her Majesty's command, sworn members of her Majesty's Most Hon. Privy Council, and took their seats at the board. Viscount Palmerston, Earl Granville, Viscount Canning, and Sir George Grey had audiences of the Queen. Mr. Justice Willes was presented to the Queen by Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department, and received the honour of knighthood.

On Tuesday Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, embarked in the *Victoria and Albert*, and proceeded to Portland to inspect the progress of the Breakwater now constructing there. The Queen and the other members of the Royal family honoured the Cowes Regatta with their presence during the afternoon.

Yesterday's night the Queen and the Prince gave their annual fête to the labourers and workpeople employed on the Osborne estate, to the seamen and marines of the Royal yacht, and the Coast-guard and Trinity-house men stationed at Cowes. The detachment from Parkhurst doing duty at East Cowes was also present. Dinner was provided for about 600 persons, in tents erected near the house, at three o'clock the whole of the party invited walked in procession, headed by the bands of the Royal Marines and 80th Regiment to the spot. The Queen and Prince, with the Royal children, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, after seeing the procession pass, went to the dinner tents, and passed between the tables at which the party was seated. Dinner being finished, her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold, the Princess Royal, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and the Duchess of Kent took their places in a marquee, to witness the rural sports, which were carried on with great spirit till past seven o'clock, when her Majesty and the Royal family retired, the bands playing "God save the Queen."

GENERAL POST-OFFICE.—Amended Regulations in regard to the transmission of Newspapers to British Colonies and Foreign Countries. Henceforth it will not be necessary that newspapers sent abroad, whether to the British colonies or to foreign countries, should bear the impressed stamp (the old newspaper-stamp); but, as at present, a postage of 1d. must be prepaid (either by means of a postage label or in money) on every newspaper sent to a British colony, with additional postage (according to the table in Instructions No. 45), when the newspaper passes through a foreign country. The postage on newspapers to foreign countries remains the same as given in Instructions No. 45; but, as already stated, it is no longer necessary that the newspaper should bear the impressed stamp. In future the impressed stamp will be required only in cases of repeated transmission of the same newspaper in this country, though it will of course be available also for single transmission in this country. In the transmission of newspapers abroad (whether to the Colonies or foreign countries), the use of the impressed stamp will entirely cease; it will neither be required nor will it count as postage, as it will be presumed that where it is employed it has already served for the transmission of the newspaper in the United Kingdom. From these regulations it will necessarily follow—1st. That every newspaper going abroad must hereafter have the postage to which it is liable represented by adhesive postage-stamps, or paid in money; 2nd. That a newspaper, whether published with or without the impressed stamp, will be placed in the same position for transmission abroad; 3rd. That the impressed stamp will hereafter apply only to transmission and retransmission within the United Kingdom.—ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

RE-OPENING OF THE FIRE ON SEBASTOPOL.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
Lord Panmure has received the following intelligence from General Simpson, dated
CRIMEA, Aug. 16.

General Pelissier and I have decided on opening fire from the English and French batteries at dawn to-morrow morning.

GREAT BATTLE IN THE CRIMEA.

WAR DEPARTMENT, 17th Aug.
The following important telegraphs have been received by Lord Panmure:—

VARNA, Aug. 16th, 1.30 p.m.
The Russians attacked the position on the Tchernaya this morning at daylight in great force. The action lasted about three hours, but they were completely repulsed by the French and Sardinians. Further particulars will be sent.

VARNA, 7.30 p.m.
The Russian attack of the morning was under the command of General Liprandi, with from 50,000 to 60,000 men. Their loss is estimated between 4000 and 5000. About 400 prisoners have been taken. The loss on the side of the Allies is very small.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SVEABORG.

The *Vulture* arrived with mails at Dantzic on the evening of the 16th:—The Allied squadrons returned to Nargen from Sveaborg on the 13th. The success at Sveaborg is fully confirmed. No ships have been seriously injured. The casualties on the English side are—killed, none; two officers and about thirty men wounded. The French loss is equally trifling.

Telegraphic intelligence, which reached Paris yesterday (Friday), says that the extent of damage done by the bombardment at Sveaborg is more than was at first anticipated. The town is nearly destroyed. The fleet is preparing for fresh operations.

Advices from Königsberg state that when the attack on Sveaborg began, the Grand Duke Constantine, immediately informed by telegraph of the event, demanded leave to go out and attack the reduced fleet before Cronstadt. The Emperor refused.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE ensuing week will be a great one at York, and its racing fête may be said to begin on Tuesday, not at Knavesmire, but at Fairfield Paddock, where about forty yearlings—principally by the Flying Dutchman and Chanticleer—will come under Mr. Tattersall's hammer. The Chanticleer stock have done but little this season in comparison with last; but his celebrated companion has made so auspicious a beginning with Mary Copp, Fly-by-night, and Eglantine, that the prices of his yearlings are likely to range very high.

The race-list at York is of a very promising character, and there will be eight or nine events run off each day. Habana is the name of greatest renown in the Oaks on Wednesday; and Ellermire, Treachery, Bianca, Lady Tatton, Capucine, Bessie, and Besika, are also in it—most of them, like her, with 4 lb. penalties. Marchioness, with her 7 lb. extra, is hardly likely to go for it. Fly-by-night is pretty certain to run for the Convivial Stakes, and will be more at home, if the present weather lasts, than he was in the mud at Goodwood, though Aleppo, Alastor, and the Ellerdale colt, with several others, will do their best against him. Kingstown seems to have the Biennial Stakes to himself, unless Coræbus is brought out, as his other 139 opponents have but little chance with him over two miles. Mr. Osbaldeston will, however, it is said, run Rifleman, about whom only 100 to 7 is obtainable for the St. Leger, as he is not thought to have done sufficient work for some time past. On Thursday the great feature of the day will be the Ebor Handicap, for which several horses, including Hospodar, have been backed already; but it is very uncertain whether the Ebor St. Leger will bring about the much-wished-for contest between Oulston and Wild Dayrell. We doubt very much whether the latter will come to York; and Fandango will be saved for the Great Yorkshire Stakes next day. The Filly Sapling Stakes is a very open race; and Zeta, Warlock, Brother to Orinoco, Sister to Broughton, &c., are among those likely to meet in the Prince of Wales Stakes. The Eglinton Stakes has a strong entry of thirty-five, among whom are Jack Sheppard and the Ellerdale colt; and the County Plate will also bring out a good field, though hardly of the same quality as last year. On Friday Eglantine should not be far off winning the Aske Produce Stakes, and the Great Yorkshire Stakes looks as if it would fall at last to the lot of Lord Zetland, by the aid of his faithful jockey "Job" and Fandango. Nettle is, we believe, hardly recovered from her Oaks accident; but Coræbus, Habana, Courtney, Ellermire, Marchioness, Blooming Heather, and Græculus are all in it, though we should fancy that some two or three of them at least will be saved for Doncaster. The seven animals in the Colt Sapling are nearly all "dark;" and, as Dramatist and Vandermeulen are not likely to go, Van Galen will be in the front rank for the Gimcrack Stakes. Lord Derby's 300 Sov. Plate has a large entry; and if Hospodar, 7 st. 7 lb., can only get a light-weight jockey capable of holding him, he ought to be very forward, as the distance is only one mile and a half. The sale at Burleigh-park is fixed for Saturday, in order to catch the sporting men on their return south; and several of Womersley yearlings, of Sir Tatton Sykes's breeding, along with divers other blood stock, will be sold in York during the three days. The other race-meetings of the week comprise Heaton Norris and Barnsley, on Monday; Great Yarmouth, on Monday and Tuesday; Swansea, on Wednesday; and Paisley and Canterbury, on Thursday and Friday.

The Cricketers' list for the week comprises a return match between Kent and Sussex at Brighton on Monday, and a match on Thursday at Gravesend, between the Gentlemen Players of those two counties. All England appear at Dudley on Monday, and at Leicester on Thursday; and the latter day will be devoted by the United All England to playing fifteen of the South Essex players at Upton park.

The Sveaborg triumph will, no doubt, instil fresh vigour into the arms of rowers and yachtsmen for the remainder of the season; and certainly they show no symptoms of flagging in their sport as yet, though the titled cruisers generally begin to think of coming to shore as the St. Leger day approaches. Be that as it may, the Limehouse and Poplar Regatta is on the list for Monday; the Royal Weymouth one for Monday and Tuesday; the Royal Northern Yacht-club (at Dunoon) and the Birkenhead Club Regattas, for Wednesday; the Wapping Regatta, third and fourth heats, for Thursday; the Paigaton and R. N. Y. C. Regatta again for Friday; and the Glasgow Annual Regatta, for Saturday.

READING RACES.—TUESDAY.

Borough Plate.—Gossip, 1. Pretty Girl, 2.
Berkshire Stakes.—Imogene, 1. Brother to Grey Tommy, 2.
Easthampstead-park Stakes.—Schamyl, 1. Noisette, 2.
Abbey Stakes.—Fair Geraldine, 1. Flyaway, 2.
Ladies' Plate.—Haunch of Venison, 1. Curious, 2.
Berkshire Hunt Stakes.—Phœbus, 1. Michaelmas Maid, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Innkeepers' Stakes.—Lucy Lockit, 1. Octavia, 2.
Forbury Stakes.—Curious, 1. Cardiff Lass, 2.
Handicap Plate.—Bright Phœbus, 1. Titorius, 2.
Reading Stakes.—Flyaway, 1. British Remedy, 2.
Caversham Stakes.—Helena, 1. Bright Phœbus, 2.
Scurry Stakes.—Firebrand walked over.

WOLVERHAMPTON RACES.—TUESDAY.

Patchull Handicap.—Speed the Plough, 1. Kidnapper, 2.
Chillington Stakes.—Stork, 1. Tilly, 2.
Cleveland Cup.—Saucebox walked over.
Borough Members' Plate.—Romeo, 1. Harriott, 2.
Free Handicap.—Robgill, 1. Fanny Fern, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Stewards' Plate.—Prince's Mixture, 1. Lady of the Lodge, 2.
Fol Stakes.—His Piper, 1. Betty Baylock, 2.
Holyoake Stakes.—Little Brownie, 1. Speed the Plough, 2.
Theatre Stakes.—Yeutick, 1. Questionable, 2.
Wriottesley Stakes.—Stork, 1. Colt (dam by Tulip), 2.
Innkeepers' Plate.—Questionable, 1. Man-of-War, 2.



MEETING OF HENRY VIII AND FRANCIS I. AT ARDRES.—THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD.—FROM A PAINTING BY JOHN GILBERT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

INTERVIEW OF HENRY VIII. AND FRANCIS I. AT ARDRES—THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD.

ALTHOUGH the present visit of a Sovereign of England to a Sovereign of France in his capital has no parallel in the annals of the two nations, the popular recollection is carried to an event of coincident magnificence, if not locality—namely, the meeting of Henry VIII. and Francis I. in the valley of Ardres, which, from the splendour of the event, procured the place of interview the name of the *Field of the Cloth of Gold*. This joyous meeting of the two great monarchs of England and France took place in 1520, in the valley of Ardres. Henry, with his Queen, and the whole Court, passed the sea from Dover to Calais, and thence proceeded to Guines, a small town near the frontier. Francis, attended in like manner, came to Ardres, a few miles distant, and the two monarchs met for the first time, on horseback, at a place situated between these two towns, but still within the English pale; Wolsey, to whom both Sovereigns had entrusted the regulation of the ceremonial, having contrived this circumstance in order to honour his master. The following picture of the magnificent scene is from the chronicler's own account:—

Then the Kyng of Englande shewed himselfe some deale forward in bewty and personage, the most goodlieste Prince yt ever reigned over the realme of Englande: his grace was appareled in a garment of cloth of siluer of Damaske, ribbed with cloth of golde, so thicke as might be, the garment was large, and plited verie thicke, and cantled of verye good entaile, of suche shape and making yt was marvellous to behold. The courser which his grace roode vpo, was trapped in a marvellous vesture of a new deuised fasson, the trapper was of fine golde, in bullion, curiously wrought, pounced, and set with antique worke of Romaine figures. Attending on the King's grace of Englande was the maister of his horse, by name Sir Henry Guyford, leading the knyght's spare horse, the which horse was trapped in a mantellet bront and back place, all of fine golde in scifers of deuise with tasselles on cordel pendant, the saddell was of the same sute and worke, so was the headstall and raynes. After followed IX. hennemen, ryding on coursers of Naples, the same young gentlemen were appareled in rich cloth of tissue, the coursers in harness of maruylous fasson, sealed in fine golde in bullion, and all the same horse harnesses were set full of trembling spangles that were large and fayre. The Lord Marques Dorset bare the kyng's sword of estate before the kyng's grace: the Lord Cardinall did his attendance. Then op blew the trumpettes, sagbutts, clarions, and all other minstrels on both sides, and the kynges descended downe towards the bottom of the valley of Ardren, to sight of both the nations on horseback, met and embraced the two kynges each other. Then the two kynges alighted, and after embraced with benyng and courteous maner eche to other, with sweete and goodly wordes of greeting: and after fewe wordes, there two noble kynges went together into a riche tent of cloth of golde, that there was set on the grounde for such purpose: thus arme in arme went the French Kyng, France, the First, of France, and Henry the Eycht, King of Englande, and of France together, passing with communication.

Then followed interchanges of friendship between the two Sovereigns and the gorgeous tournament; but the point chosen by the Artist, in the accompanying picture, is the first meeting of the two great monarchs.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO PARIS. (From our Special Correspondent.)

THROUGH the kindness of his Majesty the Emperor—who has graciously thrown open all the private apartments of the Tuileries, St. Cloud, Versailles, and the Trianon for our inspection—your Special Correspondent, aided by your Artists, is enabled to present to your readers authentic and exclusive details on the important visit which, by the time these lines see the light, will be in course of inauguration. To the details which I sent to you last week I may now add some important points; and, first of all, of the preparations in the streets. These promise to be on the grandest scale. As I informed you last week, the National Guard will form the line along the Boulevards; but as it is intended to have the way kept from the railway-station through Paris to St. Cloud, no less than 17,000 troops have been called to Paris in addition to the ordinary garrison under arms. Altogether, in the course of her splendid progress through this capital, her Majesty will probably see 50,000 men under arms. On the Boulevard du Stra-bourg, which leads from the railway terminus to the Boulevards, already red columns, rising to an immense height, and destined to bear banners and garlands, have been raised. The inhabitants have been invited to aid, by their subscriptions, the wish of the local authorities to decorate the long line of Boulevards from one extremity to the other.

At St. Cloud the preparations for the reception of the English Court have been carried on with remarkable activity. I have spent two days of this week in the château, inspecting—under the obliging auspices of the Governor, Colonel Thierry—the theatre, of which your artist has made a sketch, and where Ristori is to exhibit her passionate tragedy; and the splendid suite of private apartments destined to receive our Queen and Court. These rooms occupy the wing of the château which was fitted up for a Queen whose unhappy fate, whose sacred misfortunes, will stand in wondrous contrast with the happy reign of the Royal lady now about to occupy them. On entering these apartments from the private staircase, beautifully decorated with bas-reliefs of the time of Louis XV., the visitor turns to the left, and reaches the antechamber to Prince Albert's private apartments. This antechamber is a beautiful room, the walls of which are of various rich marbles tastefully intermingled. Advancing from this room, the visitor enters the Prince's salon, a beautifully furnished apartment, the walls of which are enriched by splendid paintings. Upon the mantelpiece I noticed a beautiful clock by Gille l'Ainé, the design of which, finely executed, is supported by a massive bronze bull. Beyond the Prince's salon is his bed-room, hung with rich Lyons silk, worth a hundred francs per mètre. Here, as in the rest of the private apartments, Faustin Besson, the painter of the private rooms of the Empress, has been busy filling in the panels with some of his sprightly and tasteful sketches. Beyond the Prince's bed-room is his dressing-room. It is fitted up with light green hangings, which pleasantly harmonise with the white walls, relieved by the beautiful gilt wood-carvings, executed when this same room was the boudoir of poor Marie Antoinette. Beyond the Prince's dressing-room, and forming an angle of the château, is the Queen's state bed-room. The walls of this beautiful apartment are white and gold—the gold work being upon exquisitely manipulated wood-carvings. Here the state bed is, of course, the principal object. Your artist can do more in the way of description of this wonderful piece of furniture than any words. I may, however, state that the skeleton of the bed is in white and gold; the outer curtains being of rich pale green silk, and the inner curtains pink, covered with muslin. The Royal initials and arms are worked into the decorations with excellent effect. The furniture is of green and gold.

Beyond the state bed-room, and between it and the Queen's boudoir, is a bath-room, hung with pink watered silk, covered with lace or muslin. The effect of this little apartment is charming. Beyond it lies the Queen's boudoir, the walls of which resemble those of the state bed-room and the Prince's dressing-room, and belong, as I have already remarked, to the time of Louis XVI. The hangings, of blue, are exquisitely tasteful; and here are two cabinets, recently finished, which are masterpieces of the modern art-workmanship of Paris. Here are, also, some splendid vases. Beyond the boudoir is her Majesty's study, a fine apartment, ornamented with pictures by Terburg, &c., in which is placed the wonderful bureau manufactured by Reisener in 1769 for Louis XVI. Your artist has sketched it. It is richly ornamented in marqueterie: it includes a number of secret drawers; and amid its massive ornaments there is, for the convenience of the writer, a clock. Beyond the study is the Queen's salon, the conspicuous ornament of which is a fine Correggio. Amid the ornaments of the walls little clocks and barometers, &c., are let in. The furniture is covered with the richest Beauvais tapestry. The walls are white, ornamented with the richest gilt carvings. The mantelpiece is supported by bronze Egyptian figures, and the curtains are of white watered silk, trimmed with red and gold fringe. Beyond her Majesty's private drawing-room are the apartments of the

ladies and gentlemen in attendance. These rooms are splendidly furnished, and enriched with choice specimens of Rubens, Vandyke, Andrea del Sarto, Domenichino, Lebrun, Boucher, &c. These rooms close the splendid suite of private apartments prepared, under the daily personal superintendence of the Emperor, for her Majesty the Queen. All that the wealth of the Louvre, the skill of modern art, the power of the loom, the improvements and contrivances of science, could furnish towards the elaboration of a residence, perfect in every particular, may be said to be present here. Every minor point has been studied to the utmost by the Imperial host; in proof of which I may mention the fact, that when I was at the château on the 11th his Majesty had left for Paris, in order to purchase a picture at the Universal Exhibition, fit to be a companion picture to one already placed. From the windows of these splendid rooms a beautiful view of immense extent is obtained, with the richly flowered private gardens underneath, for a foreground. Hence also the Queen may see, at the summit of the slope, the lighthouse built by the first Napoleon, which used to be lighted whenever he slept at the château.

The state apartments of the château have been already described. I may, add, however, that in the great dining-room Marie Antoinette, worked in Gobelin's tapestry, is suspended opposite a figure of the Emperor, the subject being the Peace of Amiens.

I may inform your readers, on authority, that the wonderful fête of Versailles will not take place before Saturday the 25th instant. At Versailles the preparations are being carried on most vigorously. The Salle des Glaces is being hung with chandeliers; platforms for orchestras are being raised in its four corners; and the theatre is in the hands of the Opera decorators, to be prepared for the supper, which is to be served at a number of tables, each table receiving twelve persons. Here dressing-rooms for the Imperial host and hostess and the Royal guests are being fitted up. At the Trianon, also, there are a few preparations; for on Tuesday next, at twelve o'clock, the Queen will reach the beautiful gardens associated with the name of Marie Antoinette, and wander here past the poor Queen's abandoned boudoir, to the Swiss cottage on the borders of the lake, where the illustrious party will breakfast. The illuminations before the front of the Palace will include a beautiful representation of Windsor Castle; and the fireworks—to be arranged on a grand scale—are to be beyond the lake, at the extremity of the Salle des Glaces, whence they will be observed by the French and English Courts.

At the Embassy, the room usually used for Divine service is being arranged for the reception of the Court. It is also said that the Elysée will be visited by her Majesty once or twice in the course of her stay in Paris, but only for luncheon. It is believed that the reception of the diplomatic corps, &c., will take place in the Salle des Marechaux at the Tuileries. Up to the present time no official notice of the day on which her Majesty will visit the Exhibition appears to have been given; although people still seem to believe that two days' notice must be given to prepare for the reception of the illustrious guests.

On all sides it is believed that a most enthusiastic reception awaits her Majesty in the capital of her great ally.

BILLY BARLOW'S TRIP TO PARIS.

(From the New Number of the "Comic Times.")

Ladies and Gentlemen, how do you do?
My appearance in print, you will say, is quite new;
But the fact is, I should have been there long ago:
The world wants a few writers like Billy Barlow.
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
There was Dickens, Carlyle—now there's Billy Barlow.

The Emperor Napoleon remark'd t'other day.
"My Great Exhibition here, somehow, don't pay;
How the deuce shall I manage to make it 'a go!'"
Says the Empress, "Send over for Billy Barlow."
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
"Here! the telegraph—quick! for young Billy Barlow."

So I pack'd my portmanteau, and off I soon set;
At the station a lot of low touters I met.
And they cried out "Dieppe and Newhaven;" but "No!"
Says I—"Dover and Calais for Billy Barlow."
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
Time is money to statesmen like Billy Barlow.

Oh! the sea it was rough, and the passage was long;
And the vessel kept pitching it preciously strong.
"Is there danger?" folks cried. Said the captain, "Why, no!
With a seaman on board like Lieutenant Barlow!"
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
A young Long Tom Coffin is Billy Barlow.

We landed at Calais. "Your passport?" says they.
"Aint got one," says I. They'd have walked me away;
But a swell in big epaulettes cries out "Halloa!
Laissez passer, milord, Mounseer Guillaume Barlow."
Oh, dear! A nice sort of go
There'd ha' been if they'd meddled with Billy Barlow.

I stroll'd round the town: the young fishwomen there
Were attracted, of course, by my manners and air.
"Did I stoop to flirtation?" you ask me. Oh, no!
I considered the feelings of Mrs. Barlow.
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
'Gainst syrens quite proof is Ulysses Barlow!

To a café I went, on the quiet, to dine:
But I'd scarce y sat down to my oysters and wine,
When I heard in the hall footsteps come to and fro,
And some voices were asking for Mounseer Barlow.
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
Deputations were waiting on William Barlow.

I was walk'd off to dine with the Préfet and Maire;
Then the people would have me come out in the air;
Such a speech as I made, on the balcony—oh!
"Vivent les Anglais!—especially Billy Barlow."
Oh, dear! It's a pleasure to know
The alliance was strengthened by Billy Barlow.

Off to Paris I went, by the half-past eight train:
As the crowd cheered me onward, folks asked "C'est la reine!
La belle reine Victoria?" The answer was "No;
'Tis the first of her subjects—Lord William Barlow."
Oh, dear! some respect please to show!
This is not Lord John Russell, but Billy Barlow!

Flags and garlands were hung (in my honour, of course)
O'er the line; on the bridges boys cheered themselves hoarse;
For refreshments, if money I offered them—oh!
It was, "Please don't insult us, Mounseigneur Barlow!"
Oh, dear, the Château Margaux
And the Roussillon opened for Billy Barlow!

At the breaking of day we to Paris drew near:
All the luggage was looked at by critics severe:
When I offered my own, says the Douanier "No!
You're the Emperor's visitor—Mister Barlow!"
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
"Pass the bundle and toothbrush of William Barlow."

So I walked into town to find somewhere to sleep,
But the lodgings they offered were nasty and cheap:
I could meet with none over ten guineas or so
For the night—which would never suit Billy Barlow!
Oh, dear! anything low
Is distasteful extremely to Billy Barlow.

I preferred a short walk in the Champs Elysées—
All prepared for a grand Illumination display—
There I noticed the names, for the firework show,
Of Victoria and Albert, and Billy Barlow.
Oh, dear! may the French never know
What it is to want England—and Billy Barlow!

Soon I dropp'd off to sleep 'neath a popular tree,
But was roused by the words "On ne dort pas ici."
'Twas a rough man in blue, who, 'twould seem, didn't know
What was due to the person of Billy Barlow!
Oh, dear! Raggedy, oh!
They have just called the case on of Billy Barlow!

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, AUGUST 16.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
Aug. 10.	30.022	72.2	44.3	58.4	— 3.3	90	S.W.	0.00
" 11.	30.192	74.5	53.2	62.2	+ 0.5	93	CALM.	0.00
" 12.	30.159	69.0	54.5	62.2	+ 0.6	84	N.	0.01
" 13.	30.218	69.5	46.0	57.2	— 4.2	85	N.N.W.	0.00
" 14.	30.174	70.2	45.8	57.2	— 3.8	90	CALM.	0.00
" 15.	30.220	73.9	53.8	62.4	+ 1.2	85	N.W.	0.00
" 16.	30.256	77.5	53.1	64.3	+ 3.2	84	N.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week—the lowest reading being 30.02 in., on the 11th; and the highest, 30.26 in., on the 16th. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.175 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 60.6°—being 0.8° below the average.

The range of temperature during the week was 33.2°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22.3°.

The weather during the week was fine; but the sky was cloudy throughout till the 16th, when it was almost cloudless.

Lewisham, Aug. 17, 1855.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending last Saturday the births of 1683 children were registered in London: of these, 833 were boys and 750 were girls, exceeding their averages by 138 and 58 respectively. The number of deaths during the week was 933, of which 492 were males and 441 females—showing that the public health still continues satisfactory, being better than is usual at this season of the year. From diarrhoea a 146 deaths are recorded, and 5 from cholera. The deaths from diarrhoea are not, however, more than the estimated average.

MESSRS. STRAHAN, PAUL, AND COMPANY.—The defendants in this case were brought up on Wednesday last, at Bow-street, for the tenth time, on the charge preferred against them by Dr. Griffith. In the absence of Mr. Bodkin, who is presiding at the Westminster Sessions for Sir James Adams, Mr. Humphreys, jun., attended for the prosecution; Mr. Lewis, of Ely-place, and Mr. Holt, of Charing-cross, attended as solicitors for the defendants. Mr. Augustus Samuel Wildey was examined for the purpose of supplying another link in the chain of evidence against the prisoners. That having been done, Mr. Humphreys proposed that the case should be formally remanded, as before, with the understanding that no additional evidence would be offered until September, when an absent witness was expected in England. The prisoners were then remanded with that understanding. Mr. Holt, the solicitor of Mr. Bates, said he had now the satisfaction of tendering bail for his client, and of adding, that the formal notice had been kindly waived by the solicitor for the prosecution, owing to the undoubted stability of the parties. The names handed in were Mr. James Anderton, of 20, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, and Mr. W. Bates (the father of the prisoner), a merchant of Liverpool, residing at No. 1, Cambridge-square, London. The usual formal questions having been put to those gentlemen, and answered satisfactorily, they were bound over, each in £3000, as sureties for the prisoner. Mr. O'Brien, the magistrate's clerk, inquired the residence of Mr. Bates, for the purpose of taking his personal recognizances? The Prisoner: My residence! Well, just now, it would be rather a puzzle to say. Mr. O'Brien: I mean your late residence. The Prisoner: Oh! 41, Norfolk-street, Strand. The final business being then completed, Mr. Bates was set at liberty, and left the court with his friends.

A WARLIKE PEACE MEETING AT ST. MARTIN'S-HALL.—A public meeting was held at St. Martin's-hall, Long-acre, on Wednesday evening, "to take opinion of the public upon the momentous question of peace or war." Mr. John Hamilton, editor of an insignificant Peace-at-any-price organ, having been called to the chair according to previous arrangement, proceeded to state his opinions upon the war in a long hypothetical speech, continually interrupted by tempests of mingled laughter, hisses, and cheers. After characterising the present contest as one of the most reckless ever carried on by any nation, and branding it as an atheistical war, he concluded by advising the people of England to refuse to supply to their Government those materials of war which were only used for their own destruction. Mr. Bronterre O'Brien, who came forward amidst great uproar, attacked the newspaper press of the metropolis, because they would not gratuitously publish an address of about two columns in length, emanating from a society of which he (Mr. B. O'Brien) is president. He proposed a long resolution condemnatory of the war, and strongly protesting against its further continuance. This was followed by another interval of confusion, which was ultimately so far subdued as to let a Mr. Harris speak, who declared himself the enemy of war under any circumstances. In seconding the resolution, he said, if it were unanimously adopted, it would have an electrifying effect throughout the country—the Government would be turned out, and universal peace prevail (Tremendous laughter, hissing, and cheers). The latter portion of the resolution was strongly supported by a small band on the platform, behind the Chairman, consisting of Mr. George Thompson, ex-M.P. for the Tower Hamlets, Peace-at-any-price lecturer, and proprietor of the Philo-Russian peace organ, and several of his friends. An amendment was moved by Mr. Horace St. John, pledging the meeting to support any honest Government that will prosecute the war "to an honourable and victorious termination." A stormy discussion followed. Mr. W. Wilkes, of the *Nonconformist*, vehemently opposed the amendment, exciting considerable surprise by characterising the bombardment of Sveaborg as the crowning proof of Ministerial treachery, because it was calculated to do more harm to the Fins, our friends, than to the Russians, our enemies—an announcement which was met by a storm of ridicule and disapprobation. Mr. Samuel Kydd contended that the wishes and ascendancy of Russia could not possibly be better promoted than by stopping the war unconditionally (Loud cheers). He loved peace; but peace, in the present state of Europe, meant fighting and conquering Russia (Loud cheers). When the meeting was nearly tired out, Mr. George Thompson spoke in favour of the resolution, taking care to say nothing in favour of absolute peace doctrines. The amendment was put amidst much confusion, few people being able to hear what was said; consequently few voted for it. The resolution was then put, when about 200, or at most 250, hands were held up in favour of it, out of 2000 persons who were present. The meeting then broke up about eleven o'clock.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO THE MILITARY AT CREMORNE.—On Monday night Cremorne-gardens were the scene of a grand fête in aid of the Wellington College, established for the children of our soldiers who may fall during the war. The charge of admission was raised from 1s. to 2s. 6d., notwithstanding which the assemblage was much more numerous than upon ordinary occasions. Extensive preparations had been made to give due éclat to the proceedings: the programme, in addition to the attractions ordinarily held out, including the attendance of no less than six regimental bands, together with that of 500 soldiers, and three battering trains, to take part in the "Attack on the Mamelon Vert, and Capture of the Rifle Pits"—a feat arranged to commence at nine o'clock, and anxiously anticipated by the hundreds of ladies and gentlemen who had paid an extra two shillings for reserved seats, or one shilling for reserved standing-places. It was, however, nearly ten before the officers in command gave the signal of attack. Sebastopol itself was very well represented by a huge panoramic painting, extending, perhaps, forty yards, the Mamelon being separately represented in advance, with real trenches, protected by fascines and sandbags in front of all, and well lined with soldiers of the "red, white, and blue." The "battering-trains," it must be confessed, were very modest pretensions, for it was seldom that anything louder than the sharp crack of the rifle was to be distinguished in the *mélée*, although the 500 soldiers were no doubt present upon the ground, and, sufficiently impressed with the gravity of events in which they were called upon to take part, resolved to conquer, if fate so willed it, or perish in the attempt. Hence there was a profuse expenditure of gunpowder, some of the men having been served with as many as forty rounds of blank cartridge; and, when the grand and final charge was made, loud was the outburst of cheers which greeted the banners of the Allies as they waved from the Russian works. During a considerable portion of the attack, however, the spectators knew little of what was passing in the trenches or before them, as a thick veil of smoke effectually shut them out from the view; and, when the whole affair was at an end, hundreds were quite at a loss to know whether the Mamelon had been captured or not. The attack was well arranged, and the effect was occasionally very striking; but, just as the Mamelon was supposed to be captured, the stage erected for the advance gave way beneath the weight of the soldiery, many of whom were precipitated to the ground, a distance of twelve or fifteen feet, and in the fall a sergeant of the Grenadiers sustained a compound fracture of the leg; another man was taken up insensible from internal injury; a third had a bayonet run through his cheek; and, in addition to these injuries, there were many dislocations, sprains, and contusions, the greater part of the vast company of spectators being all the while ignorant of the occurrence of any such catastrophe. Every exertion was made to assist the injured by direction of the officers in charge, and by twelve o'clock about twenty-five men had been conveyed, in cabs or on stretchers, to the military hospital in Rochester-row, Westminster, where several surgeons residing in the neighbourhood hastened to give their assistance to the resident medical officer.

MUSIC.

THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA closed for the season on Saturday last, when the "Etoile du Nord" was performed for the ninth time, for the benefit of Mr. Harris, the able and respectable stage-manager. The season, though very barren of remarkable incidents, has been satisfactory to the public, and is understood to have been profitable to the management. This, indeed, may be inferred from the manner in which the theatre has been attended, for we do not remember ever to have seen so unbroken a succession of full houses. To explain this, it has been said that, there having been a great diminution of balls, concerts, and parties in private houses, people have resorted to places of public entertainment. This may or may not be the reason; but the fact is, that not only the Opera, but public places generally, have thriven this season. The season has been shorter than usual—from the 12th of April to the 11th of August; and the production of novelty has also been unusually small. The programme of the season promised little, but all that was promised has been performed; and the public, by their reception of the pieces brought forward, showed that they did not desire more. The season began with Rossini's "Il Conte Ory," in which a great deal of pretty music is thrown away on a worthless drama. With the help of Gardoni's fine singing, it supported several performances. Mlle. Jenny Ney then appeared in "Fidelio," making her debut on the night of the State visit, when her merits were overlooked in the midst of the excitement caused by the presence of the Emperor and Empress of the French. But when she appeared a few nights afterwards, in the "Trovatore," the public became aware of the extent of her powers as a tragedian and a singer. The triumphant success of this opera, which was also supported by Madame Viardot and Signor Graziani (the new baritone), was arrested by the long and severe illness of Mlle. Ney, who, as soon as she recovered, was recalled to her permanent position at Dresden. Graziani, who had previously made his debut in "Ernani," turned out an admirable performer, possessed of a beautiful voice, a highly cultivated style, a handsome person, and respectable talents as an actor. It is understood that he, as well as Mlle. Ney, are, or will be, included in the engagements of next season. They were the only new performers of note promised in Mr. Gye's prospectus. The only new piece promised besides the "Trovatore" was the "Etoile du Nord," which was first performed on the 11th of June: its production and success must be fresh in the memory of our musical readers. A work of such difficulty demanded long preparation; and, besides, the period before it appeared was fully and advantageously employed. The manager had been enabled to obtain once more the services of Gisli, whose name was not mentioned in the programme of the season. She appeared on the 24th of May, in "La Favorita;" and, notwithstanding her formal leave-taking of last year, was received with acclamations. She was at first announced for a limited number of nights; but she continued to perform her most favourite characters down to the 28th July, when she appeared in the "Huguenots," and once more took her leave—but, this time, only for the season. So we may reckon pretty confidently on seeing and hearing her next year. Mario constantly appeared along with her, singing better than he had done for several years. These were the few events of the season. It was filled up by repetitions of some of the stock pieces of the theatre; most of which were admirably performed; the company being strong beyond precedent—so strong, indeed, that the manager seemed to labour under the *embarras des richesses*, and was at a loss how to find employment for his performers. Gardoni, in particular, though one of the most attractive singers on the stage, had nothing to do during the greatest part of the season. Madame Viardot has appeared little, and not always to the best advantage: neither *Rosina* nor *Desdemona* was favourable to her; but her performance of the gipsy, *Azuena*, in the "Trovatore," was full of originality and genius; and her *Fides*, in the "Prophète," is still the finest on the stage. Another singer, very insufficiently employed, has been Madame Rudersdorff. In the "Etoile du Nord" she gave very great effect to the character of *Nathalie*, the *vivandière*, to which part her labours were almost exclusively confined. Mlle. Bosio was much before the public, and is a greater favourite than ever. As *Zerlina*, in "Don Giovanni," as *Elvira*, in the "Puritani," as *Adina*, in the "Elisir d'Amore;" and, above all, as *Catherine*, in the "Etoile du Nord," she has delighted everybody by the charms of her person, the beauty of her voice, her brilliant and yet delicate execution, and her grace and animation as an actress. Mlle. Marai has proved herself, throughout the season, a most valuable *seconda donna*. In such parts as *Adalgisa*, in "Norma," *Marcellina*, in "Fidelio," *Bertha*, in the "Prophète," she has never been surpassed; and her *Prascope*, the little country girl, in the "Etoile du Nord," gave a charm to the whole opera. Of Tamberlik, Formès, and Labache, it is unnecessary to say anything. Their labours have essentially contributed to the success of the season. The orchestra, under its admirable *chef*, Costa, is as magnificent as ever; and the various operas, generally speaking, have been got up with the care and splendour which have always distinguished this theatre. The ballet no longer holds the prominent part it once did in the entertainment of opera-house, either here or elsewhere. We have no longer dramas with regular plot and incidents, and every passion and feeling expressed by movement and gesture. Dancing is confined to little diversissements generally incidental to the opera. Of the brilliant constellation which used to rise nightly in the Haymarket, Cerito only remains. She has been dancing all the season, and dancing very charmingly. But there is something melancholy in seeing her—

Like the last rose of summer blooming alone,
Her lovely companions all wither'd and gone.

We regret the decay of the ballet. It was once raised too high. But it was a beautiful entertainment, and does not deserve the neglect into which it has fallen.

THE COMMITTEE of the Birmingham Festival are making their preparations with their usual activity. On Monday last, at the Hanover-square Rooms, there was a full rehearsal of Costa's new oratorio, "Eli," which he has just completed for the approaching meeting. The principal singers engaged to take part in it, namely, Madame Castellan, Madame Viardot, Mr. Sims Reeves, Herr Formès, and Mr. Weiss, were present; and there was a full muster of the London members of the orchestra and chorus, Mr. Costa himself conducting. The subject and incidents of this oratorio are contained in the first four chapters of the Book of Samuel; the poem being from the pen of Mr. Bartholomew, who has produced a sacred drama full of grandeur, beauty, and pathos. The music is worthy of the subject. It is highly original—combining the graceful, flowing melody of the Italian school with the force, depth, and solidity of the great German masters. We have no hesitation in saying that this oratorio will take its place among the greatest works of its class that have appeared since the days of Handel.

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.—Mr. Planche's two-act drama of "Court Favour" was revived on Monday, to give an opportunity to a new debutante—Miss Blanche Fane—who appeared in the interesting character of *Lucy Morton*. The piece belongs to the class of light comedy, and presents a pleasing intrigue, in which the heroine gains from the *Earl of Abemarle* an office and handsome salary for her humble lover by pretending at first to favour the addresses of the licentious nobleman. Miss Fane played the part with care and finish, and much variety of expression. In the latter scenes she failed, perhaps, to sustain the situation from a deficiency of physical vigour, but the moral purpose and determination were evident to the end. This young lady has apparently studied in the French school of acting; and it is one which is remarkably well calculated to bring to perfection the style of stage-art for which she is best fitted. She should be careful to select roles for her future appearances in which delicacy, grace, and prettiness are required rather than force and passion. She will in such parts find a wide range for the exercise of her talents; and the modern stage is somewhat wanting in an appropriate representative of the class. With such undoubted qualifications Miss Fane will do well to determine at once her position as a vaudeville heroine, and we entertain no doubt in such a case of her complete success. The audience was manifestly delighted with her efforts, and she well merited the ovation awarded to her on the occasion.

MR. BELTON, late of the Princess Theatre, took his departure this week for America, having been engaged for the Boston Theatre by Mr. Barry. This young and ambitious actor has for the last few years pursued a difficult and upward path with great credit; his talents for the juvenile heroes of the drama are not to be doubted, and we trust that his success in the new country will not be delayed.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. Anderson, better known, perhaps, as the "Great Wizard of the North," has taken this theatre for a considerable term, and opens it on the 2nd of September. His entertainment is entirely novel in plan; and, if carried out with his usual skill and success, will afford some singular exemplifications not only of the ordinary arts of conjuring, but of those extraordinary arts by which too many have been bamboozled, both in Europe and America, under the name of "Spirit-rapping." The theatre under "The Wizard's" management is to be called, it appears, the "Psychomanteum."

HARVEST PROSPECTS.

A FEW scattered fields of corn were reaped ten days ago—a kind of rehearsal for a great performance; but on Monday, which was a bright and glorious day for England, the real work of reaping began almost universally. It was the day after the beginning of the harvest moon, and her ladyship ushered in fine weather. The farmers had faith in the augury, and thousands of sickles were on that day played against millions of acres of corn. The work for gathering in the bread of the nation was most auspiciously begun. Stalwart men, accompanied by nut-brown women to bind up the sheaves, entered by thousands on the great and noble task that will supply bread for the next year to many millions of people.

Monday, too, was the commencement of the grouse season. Scores or hundreds of gentlemen started from their shooting-boxes; fought their way laboriously over the heather; and at night returned fatigued, themselves and their servants loaded with game, to enjoy a good dinner, and talk over their exploits. In the labours both of reapers and sportsmen the public take a great interest; but in an inverse ratio, we are afraid, to their utility.

This year there is a wonderful breadth of wheat on the ground, and a great demand for labour. Nooks and corners that have been lying waste from the beginning of the world have lately been inclosed and drained, and are now bearing rich harvests. The exertions of the agriculturists, of which we have latterly heard so much; their new and costly manures, brought from the farthest ends of the earth, or combined by all the skill of the chemist; their increased care of stock; their many instruments for pulverising and clearing the land, and making it bear only wholesome food, have not been without their rewards, and the largest crop of corn last year that ever was grown in England, with a crop now on the ground almost or quite as large, and a cheerful prospect of its being equally well harvested, are the fruits of their exertions. Fine weather is ripening it all at once; but fortunately we have plenty of hands to gather it in. In Spain, it is said, the harvest is very abundant, as it happily is in most of the other countries of the Continent; but in Spain the labourers are few, and the cholera is now prostrating their strength. In Russia, too, we are informed that the peasants are carried off in large numbers from the estates, which in many cases are left without hands effectually to till them. No help can be got from townspeople, none from men in other occupations, for all belong to masters, and are tied to spots. In times of emergency the spare population of our towns overflows on the country; labourers move about from place to place; mowers come from the north to the hayfields of Middlesex and Herts, and return to reap the corn of Northampton and Leicester. The hop districts, in which the harvest does not begin for a month, have draughted off many of their stout hands to reap the cornfields of Eastern Kent and Western Sussex. Our labourers are free to choose their place of toil; rails convey them cheaply from one end of the country to another; by their freedom and diffusion their services are made more available; the manly strength of the nation is applied in the most advantageous manner, and all its resources are silently and wonderfully increased. With, as we believe, a very great harvest on the ground—with means far more abundant of gathering it in, and preserving every grain, than is possessed by other nations—our prospects at home are bright and cheering.

Even before the harvest is secured, trade, which has been comparatively stagnant with the United States and Australia, is reviving, and, with a good harvest enriching all and stimulating enterprise, it will be rapidly extended. Last year the crops of the United States were extremely short. They had less cotton to sell us and much less wheat than usual; they could, therefore, buy less from us, and the trade with the United States was much curtailed. This year their crops are said to be very abundant, and a large portion of them will add to our means of subsistence. In Canada, also, where the growth of wheat has increased very fast, and is now very large, the crops are excellent. In both these countries large tracts of land are continually enclosed from the forests and gradually turned into cornfields. In Canada, in 1853, 602,616 acres of public lands were sold—nearly three times as much as any previous year since 1847. In the United States, in 1854, 5,130,000 acres were sold, promising us and the whole trading world which shares in the abundance of that free country large future supplies of food. Even Spain is fast increasing her productions, and under the stimulus of our free-trade markets is every year producing more, and sending us more wheat and flour. We look, therefore, for a plentiful supply in the present year and great abundance hereafter. The spirit of industrious man seems every where rousing into increased activity, and is preparing a happier future for society.

We cannot tell our readers to expect immediate and great cheapness. The corn-markets are falling, but we require a few weeks' fine weather to secure our crops. It is certain, too, that the potatoes are, to a slight degree, affected by disease, but not so much as last year, when the crop was excellent. Some persons, too, dwell much on fields of wheat beaten down and destroyed, and on disease in the wheat. At this period there are always many sinister reports of this kind: we have personally visited a large part of the southern portion of the kingdom and found very little corn laid, and none anywhere blighted. We adopt, therefore, without hesitation, the more favourable reports. Everybody admits that the quantity of land sown with wheat is far greater than ever; and most of the reports represent the crops on the ground as excellent in England, Ireland, and Scotland. This is consistent with our experience. At the same time we know that stocks are short, that a considerable period must elapse before the whole crop is secured, and a longer period before we can be quite certain of the supplies we can command from abroad. Such circumstances will delay the fall in price; it will not probably be great and rapid, but it will come. There is, we believe, an abundance on the earth, and the consumers will obtain it at an easy rate.

DEATH OF PATRICK PARK, ESQ., THE SCULPTOR.

WE regret to announce the death of Patrick Park, Esq., the distinguished sculptor, which took place somewhat suddenly on Thursday last, at Warrington, whither he had proceeded from Manchester on professional business.

Mr. Park was in his forty-fifth year, and has left a widow and family to lament their irreparable loss. Mr. Park was a native of Glasgow, and having, at a very early age, manifested a love of the branch of art in which he afterwards excelled, was sent to Rome, where he studied under Thorwaldsen. His genius was decidedly bold, energetic, and masculine. He delighted in portraying the athletic and heroic, rather than the soft and gentle, and has left behind him many works which the ancient Greeks and Romans would have held in the highest esteem; but for which, we fear, there was not sufficient encouragement in England. But it was for his portrait-busts that Mr. Park was best known. He idealised, refined, and ennobled the countenances of his sitters, without ever losing sight of fidelity and truth to nature; a rare art, in which it may be safely alleged he was a master, surpassed by none of his contemporaries or predecessors—not even excepting Chantrey. Those who have seen his admirable bust of the late Sir Charles James Napier, of Sir Harry Smith, of Alison the historian, and of Napoleon III., will recognise the justice of this faint eulogium—to add force to which we might cite, if necessary, scores, if not hundreds, of other portraits of persons more or less distinguished. We believe that Mr. Park's last exhibited works of this class were the busts of Mr. Layard, M.P., and H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, lately on view at Messrs. Colnaghi's, in Pall-mall.

THE Duke of Cornwall's exhibition, granted to the Government School of Mines by the Prince of Wales, has this year been awarded to M. Charles Gould, a son of the eminent ornithologist.

ROYAL THAMES NATIONAL REGATTA.

THIS regatta, the object of which is to offer rewards and prizes for perfection in rowing to men of every grade, whether gentlemen, tradesmen, or watermen, in order that its universal character may accord with its name, came off with complete success on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday last, and the additional attraction of fine weather gave increased interest to some of the finest and best-contested races ever seen on the Thames. It was "Queen's weather;" and it is not a little singular that, when it was originally decided that this regatta should come off in July, her Majesty had not then conferred her patronage on it. When this was done the committee felt it their duty to add to its attractiveness as much as possible; and in order that a goodly list of entries might appear on so important an occasion, as the first regatta so honoured, it was put off till August, in order to give time for more crews to be got together. The three days originally fixed on in July turned out "soakers;" the three in August just as fine—so that the Londoners have not only to thank her Majesty for her patronage to this undertaking, in the successful development of which their credit is so much at stake, but for the large amount of sport afforded, and the fine weather that enabled them to enjoy it. The general character of the regatta has been amply sustained, as far as the quality and quantity of the racing is concerned; but, if somewhat short of the show with which we might wish to see it put before the public as a national undertaking, it must be borne in mind that this is only the second year of its existence, and that the fun is as solely raised by private subscription obtained through the exertions of a few private gentlemen; and it is a fact that ought to be known that, from many of the sources from which money should naturally be expected to come, such as the conveyance companies to the course, and which make a large profit out of the Regatta, it is withheld. The South-Western Railway Company refused this season any contribution whatever, though the greater part of the visitors to Putney passed down their line, and special trains were obliged to be laid on to accommodate the increased traffic. Two only of all the City Steam-boat Companies, whose servants belong to the class benefited, and whose revenue must be somewhat advantaged by the traffic up and down the river that such an event creates, subscribed the sum of five pounds each towards the funds. These exceptions were the Citizen and Iron Steam-boat Companies; which latter company liberally placed a steamer at the use of the committee for the subscribers to view the racing from, and on which the plate was tastefully displayed—a bust of her Majesty, as patron of the regatta, surmounting all; and another of the Prince of Wales, as a sailor, immediately underneath. The band in attendance was that from Cremorne Gardens, lent by Mr. Simpson.

The elegant plate which was competed for was manufactured by Messrs. Edkins, of Salisbury-square. The top piece of the group in the centre is the Gentlemen Scullers' Prize, a glass claret-jug with silver ornamental handle and fittings; and immediately under this is the Grand Gold Challenge Cup for gentlemen's eight-oared boats. On the right and left of the Scullers' Prize are the Tradesmen's Eight-oared Challenge Cup, and the Four-oared ditto, rather smaller; and immediately under this last are the tankards, the Gig-race Prize. Under the Grand Gold Challenge Cup is the Clifford Challenge Cup (or rather we should say the claret-jug); and on either side of this are the Presentation Cups, given with the various Challenge Cups, the winner in every race for a Challenge Cup having a small cup for himself, which is his property; whereas the Challenge Cup belongs to the Club, and must be returned to the committee at the end of the season for competition again on the next. At the extreme right, on a line with the Clifford Jug, the Gentlemen's (Junior) Four-oared Presentation Tankards are placed; and to the right and left, a little above the coat and badge, which are placed immediately in front, are the Gentlemen's Presentation Pair-oared Cups. Almost in a line with these are the cups for the Gentlemen's Four-oared Race, and the Junior Pair-oared Race. The coat is of the finest scarlet cloth, made by Messrs. Nicoll, of Regent-street and Cornhill, and lined with scarlet silk throughout and quilted. The letters "R. T. N. R."—Royal Thames National Regatta—being embroidered with silver on the collar, and the seams covered with silver lace. The badge on the coat was made by Messrs. Sarl and Sons, and represents old London-bridge, with St. Paul's in the background, and shipping in the front.

The Regatta concluded on Wednesday, when the assemblage was much more numerous than on previous days. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, with a select party of friends, arrived in the course of the day. The races decided were—a four-oared race, open to the world, for £70 in cash; a four-oared race, for tradesmen, for the Challenge Cup and Presentation Tankard; a scullers' race, for gentlemen; a pair-oared race, open to the world (final heat). The last-named contest was looked forward to with much interest. Winship and Bruce of the Elswick crew, Wood and Ault of the Manchester, with W. Pocock and H. Clasper, and Lay and Bain, Wandsworth men, being pitted against each other, caused the betting to assume some interest. The Manchester was in favour at the start; the Elswick crew, however, gained favour. The start was splendid: the Elswick crew took the lead, and maintained it up to the Willows, closely pressed by the Manchester men, the London men tailing off. The Elswick crew in first, the Manchester men being beaten. In the evening the various prizes were presented to the winners by the Lord Mayor, at Cremorne-gardens.

WORCESTERSHIRE ARCHERY SOCIETY.

THE first field-day of this society for the present season took place (as we briefly announced in our last Number) on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at Sherridge Court, the residence of T. Norbury, Esq., in the picturesque parish of Leigh, near Worcester. The weather in the early part of the morning was unfavourable; but towards twelve o'clock it cleared up, and remained fine for the remainder of the day, although the neighbourhood was visited by heavy storms. Lady Pakington was the Lady Paramount, and discharged the duties of her office greatly to the satisfaction of all present. Four ends of targets were pitched for the members, and one end for the strangers. The distance was sixty yards; the number of arrows twelve dozen. The following is a list of the shooters:—

Ladies: Miss and Miss M. Bearcroft, Miss Bennett, Miss Berkeley (Cotheridge), Miss Berkeley (Spetchley), Miss Blount, Mrs. Davison, Miss Hill, Misses Holland, Miss and Miss E. Norbury, Miss Temple, Mrs. Walcot.

Gentlemen: Rev. T. Bearcroft, Sir E. Blount, W. Blount, Esq., — Bennett, Esq., Rev. J. Cooke, Colonel Clowes, Rev. J. R. Davison, Hon. and Rev. G. Gifford, E. Isaac, Esq., J. S. Isaac, Esq., J. W. Isaac, Esq., Rev. O. K. Prescott, Rev. C. J. Sale, Rev. W. Temple, M. E. Vale, Esq., Rev. W. R. Villers, Rev. J. Walcot, Rev. J. Webster.

The following ladies and gentlemen had rings excluded:—

Mrs. Davison, 2; Colonel Clowes, 2; Miss M. Bearcroft, 1; Rev. J. R. Davison, 1; Rev. J. Walcot, 1.

Hopkins's Quadrille Band played at intervals throughout the day. At three o'clock the shooting was agreeably broken in upon by an adjournment to the dinner tent, where an excellent repast was provided by Mr. Hambler, of Worcester. Mr. Norbury presided; and, after the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured, Sir E. Blount proposed the "Health of the Lady Paramount." Sir J. S. Pakington returned thanks, and gave the "Health of the Host and Hostess," whose courteous attentions to their guests had contributed to make the first meeting of the season most agreeable, as well as successful. Mr. Norbury having duly responded to the toast, the tent was shortly deserted, and the shooting resumed. It did not terminate until after seven o'clock, when the lists were made up, and the prizes awarded by the Lady Paramount. The Ladies' Challenge Prize was given to Mrs. Davison (hits 120, score 519); the Gentlemen's to Colonel Clowes (hits 124, score 574). Mrs. Davison and Colonel Clowes also gained the First Lady's and First Gentleman's Prizes (hits 60 and 74, scores 390 and 464). The Second Lady's Prize was awarded to Mrs. Walcot (hit: 79, score 307), the second Gentleman's Prize to the Rev. T. Bearcroft (95 and 399). The prizes for the best hits in the gold were given to Miss Hill and the Rev. J. Walcot. The visitors' prizes were awarded to Miss Berkeley (Cotheridge), hits 40, score 166, and the Rev. O. K. Prescott, 96 and 448.

The sports and pleasures of the day were agreeably terminated by a ball. The costume of the lady members of the Worcestershire Archery Society is remarkable for its picturesque elegance. It consists of a white felt ("wide-awake") hat, bound round with dark green velvet, the white crown encircled by a green velvet band, from the bow of which droops a green and white ostrich feather. The jacket is of green silk, on which is worn the member's badge, and the skirt is of white muslin. These, with the usual archery equipments, make up a very charming costume. The introduction of the felt hat, in place of the large white chip hat, is due to the refined taste of Lady Georgiana Lygon.

Our illustration (from a sketch by Cuthbert Bede) shows the picturesque and park-like scenery of Sherridge, enlivened by the groups of archers and their friends. This peaceful "tented field" is shut in with groups of noble trees, gradually opening out to the distance, where "Malvern's lonely height"—from which, according to Macaulay, "twelve fair counties" may be seen—terminates the landscape with a broken line of hills. The chief part of the hills seen in the sketch is the North Hill.



THE TROPHIES WON BY THE LADIES' TEAM. — (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



FETE OF THE WORCESTERSHIRE ARCHERY SOCIETY, AT BERRIDGE COURT, NEAR WORCESTER. — (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

NAPOLEON RELICS.

THE present page bears three illustrations of the dynasty of Napoleon. As memorabilia of conquest and captivity, two of these "curiosities" are suggestive, from their association with passages in the life of Napoleon I.—one commemorating the "gale of his glory," the other recalling the circumstances of the close of his memorable life. "The Marengo Plate," the first of these relics, was formerly in the possession of the late Mr. Thomas Windus, F.S.A.: it is an exquisite specimen of Sevres china, painted with a scene from the ever-memorable battle of Marengo, at which Bonaparte commanded the French army against the Austrians, and by the victorious result of which he became master of Italy, thus wonderfully consolidating his power, and increasing his influence on the opinion of the French. Mr. Windus used to relate that at the capitulation of Paris, in 1814, the above plate was taken from a boudoir in the Palace of St. Cloud, by a British officer, from whom Mr. Windus obtained the piece of porcelain in the following year. It remained in Mr. Windus's possession, in his museum at Stamford-hill, until his death, in the present year, when his son, Lieutenant Windus, upon the dispersion of the collection, proposed to present the relic to the present Emperor of the French. For this purpose Lieutenant Windus visited Paris in May last, when the Emperor notified through the Grand Marshal his willingness to accept the plate. His Imperial Majesty, it is well known, takes great interest in collecting accredited souvenirs of his uncle; in consequence of which the offers of presents became so numerous that in order to stay their influx it became necessary to issue a notification in the *Moniteur*. An exception was, however, made for the Marengo Plate, which has accordingly been added to the Imperial cabinet. Lieutenant Windus had previously taken the plate to the manufactory at Sevres to be identified: here the officials stated that, by the mark upon the plate, it was made about the year 1807, and was painted by their most eminent artist at that period. They expressed their surprise at the extreme beauty of the border, adding that such elaborate designs are not now executed; that there is no duplicate of this plate; and that it must have been made by express order. It is inclosed in a case which bears the Imperial insignia. As a memorial of the transaction, Lieutenant Windus has had the plate beautifully photographed; and a painting in oil has been made of it by Mr. Andrews, late painter to the Czar Nicholas, in the Palace at St. Petersburg.

We have seen how the plate recalls Napoleon in the flush of victory. The next group of relics is associated with the close of the victor's earthly career. In the Musée des Souverains, recently collected in the Louvre at Paris, is an entire hall devoted to memorials of the Napoleon family. It is one of the most attractive collections of the Curiosities of Paris, and thither thousands of sightseers flock, preferring these relics of mortal greatness to the far-famed treasures of art which are assembled in the same Palace. Among these relics is the coat which Napoleon wore at Marengo, purple, embroidered throughout with olive-leaves in dead gold. Here, also, is the sword which Napoleon wore as Consul; and here are several articles of his toilet—his little writing-desk, his *redingote gris* his coronation shoes, gloves, and many other articles of personal interest, which are ably described by a writer in No. 251 of *Household Words*. Among the most interesting and significant articles in the Museum are three hats—"black, rusted, devoid of splendour, ludicrous almost," says the writer of quiet humour we have just referred to. Two of these hats are



SEVRES PLATE, PAINTED WITH A SCENE FROM THE BATTLE OF MARENGO, FOR THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON I.

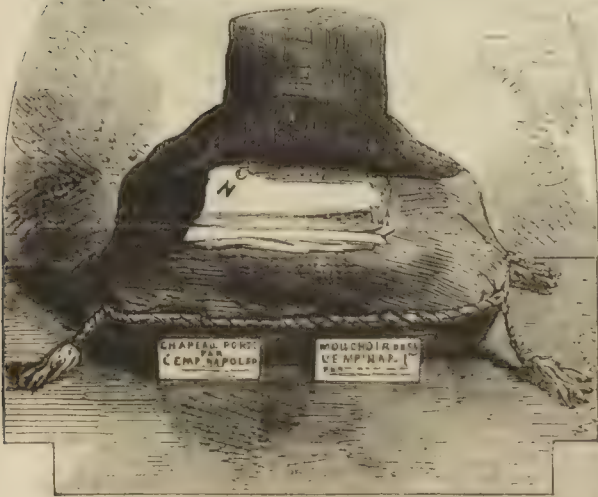
THE TOMB OF NAPOLEON II., AT VIENNA.

It is often asked, why Louis Napoleon styles himself Napoleon III. The reason is obvious. When Napoleon I. abdicated the throne, after the battle of Waterloo, he abdicated in favour of his son, the Duke of Reichstadt and King of Rome. Although that Prince never actually reigned, the theory of established Governments is, the new King succeeds *de facto* the moment that the old King dies or vacates his position. The son of Louis XVI. never reigned, but he was recognised by the adherents of the elder branch of the Bourbons as Louis XVII.; and his uncle, who ultimately filled the throne, took the title of Louis XVIII. In like manner, the adherents of the Napoleonic dynasty insist that if the Duke of Reichstadt were Emperor only for the millionth part of a second, and until the news of his father's abdication could be promulgated, he was for that portion of time, infinitesimal though it were, the *de facto* Emperor of the French by the title of Napoleon II. Thus the present Emperor is legally, historically, and dynastically Napoleon III. The Duke of Reichstadt, as is well known, died in Vienna at an early age.

The accompanying illustration shows the Duke's Tomb in the Church of the Capuchins, in the Neumarkt in that capital. The Church in the Neumarkt is remarkable for containing the burial-vault of the Imperial family. It is shown by torchlight, under the guidance of a Capuchin brother. There are in all nearly seventy metal coffins. The oldest is that of the Emperor Matthias, 1619; the most splendid are that of Margaret of Spain, first wife of Leopold I., that of Joseph I., which is of pure silver, and those of Marie Therese, and her husband Francis, and her son Joseph II.

In the accompanying illustration the sarcophagus marked A is the tomb of Napoleon II. It will be seen that the Duke's name of Napoleon does not occur in the inscription; this omission is not accidental; and he is only there stated to have been the son of the Emperor Napoleon. The adjoining small tomb, B, is that of the Duke's mother, Marie Louise; and the large tomb is that of his maternal grandfather, the Emperor Francis. The following is the inscription upon the lid of the sarcophagus

Æternæ Memoriz
Jos. Car. Francisci Ducis Reichstadiensis
Napoleonis Gall: Imperatoris
et
Mar: Ludovici Arch: Austr:
filii
Nati Parisiis XX Mart. MDCCCXI
in Cunabulis
Regis Romæ nomine salutati
Ætate omnibus ingenii corporisque
dotibus florentem
procera statura vultu juveniliter decoro
singulari sermonis comitate
militaribus studiis et laboribus
mire intentum
phthisis tentavit
tristissima mors rapuit
in suburbano angustorum ad pulchrum ontem
prope Vindobonam
XXII Julii MDCCCXXXII.



HAT AND HANDKERCHIEF OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON I., IN THE LOUVRE, AT PARIS.

"cocked," and were worn by the Emperor in his campaigns. The third hat is altogether of a different order. It is a round hat, with the brim turned up at the sides. It was worn by the illustrious captive throughout his residence at Longwood, St. Helena. It is of beaver, but is worn out at the back: the brim is broken in two places, and has been rudely mended with needle and silk: the lining is of silk, of hazel colour, quite faded, and stuffed with cotton. The hat is placed upon a cushion, and in front of it is a little yellow cambric pocket-handkerchief, embroidered with the initial "N," surmounted by the Imperial crown. This handkerchief, which was taken off Napoleon's bed after his death, he held in his hand at the moment when he breathed his last sigh, and with it he wiped away the last drops of perspiration that bathed his brows. It was preserved by M. Pierron, *maitre d'hôtel* to the Emperor, who presented it to the museum with the hat just described. In front of the cushion are two inscriptions describing the articles. This is the most touching memorial of him whose greatness is now a handful of ashes in the Invalides, "on the banks of the Seine, among the French people, whom he loved so well."

COMMERCIAL DISTRESS IN RUSSIA.—Great depression prevails among all classes in St. Petersburg, owing to the duration of the war, which completely paralyses all branches of commerce and industry. This depression has gained even the leading personages of the old Russian party, who were hitherto so warlike and so enthusiastic, but who are now beginning to despair. Nearly all labour is suspended in the manufactories, in consequence of the want of primary materials which no longer arrive from abroad, and also from want of hands, all being employed in the defence of the Empire. The produce of the soil has no longer a market abroad, and in the interior business is at a stand still. Articles of the most indispensable kind have attained an exorbitant price. Coffee, sugar, and salt are luxuries which now are hardly to be seen, except on the tables of the great. The nobility support all the burden of the sacrifices in money imposed by the present circumstances, and the number of Boyards who will be utterly ruined by the war is beyond all idea. Add to this the grief of so many families, who have all to deplore the death of one or several relatives, and it will be easily imagined that the higher classes of the Russians are not over-disposed for amusements and fetes; and yet they are forced by superior order to be gay. The summer season has not stopped the course of balls and soirées. The Emperor having gone day after day, in presence of his courtiers, that the nobles ought to invent some plan for preventing the commerce of the capital from feeling too severely the privations of things, and particularly the blockade of the Baltic, hitherto they set about organising a series of *tableaux vivans*, the performers in which are persons of the highest class of society. As these *tableaux* represent the different episodes of Russian history at all epochs, the actors and actresses in them are obliged to make purchases of the richest stuffs for the sumptuous costume. *Tableaux vivans* for the relief of the suffering tradesmen are at this moment the fashion on the banks of the Neva, and each noble feels obliged to give at least one of these patriotic pantomimes to prevent mourning the misfortune of his master, when no more generous motive exists. The tradespeople of St. Petersburg are relieved for the moment, but *tableaux vivans* on such a scale at length become onerous, and something else must be soon invented to alleviate the misery of the industrial classes.—*From the London Standard*.

The receipts of the theatres and other places of public amusement in Paris considerably diminished during the last month. The amount received was 1,184,249 fr. 54 c., being 12,000 fr. 95 c. less than in the month of June.

The summons addressed to the National Guards of Paris, calling them out for Saturday (to-day), on the occasion of the entry of the Queen of England, states that each man must have in his knapsack a day's provision field ration.



TOMB OF NAPOLEON II., IN THE IMPERIAL VAULT, IN THE CHURCH OF THE CAPUCHINS, AT VIENNA.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE good people "all round the Wrekin" were so attentive to the little knot of antiquaries who assembled last week at Shrewsbury, as the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, that we have not seen any other expression of face on the excursionists—now once more in London—than that of general satisfaction at the result. The temporary museum we are assured was, it is true, somewhat disappointing when it was contrasted with the exhibition of the same character at Norwich and Lincoln; but it was still good, and deserved the trouble it occasioned. The inaugural addresses were, it is said, of the very commonest character, and the local papers more than confirm this account. The President, Lord Talbot de Malahide, expressed a very proper regret that the collection of Mr. Roach Smith had not been bought by the trustees of the British Museum. Another nobleman, Lord Dunsannon, much to the delight of the head-master of the far-famed Shrewsbury School, made the most marked portion of his speech the introduction of the threadbare quotation from "Ingenus didicisse." The Dean of Manchester, in announcing that this was the first occasion of his being present at any of the meetings of the Institute, was led by a subtle train of reasoning into the novel remark that he hoped it would not be his last. This was very properly cheered—and may hereafter be copied by other speakers on similar occasions. The excursions were to Hawkstone, Wroxeter, Wenlock, and Buildwas Abbey. The principal papers were contributed by Mr. J. Kemble, Mr. Schaff, Mr. Bloxam, and Mr. Pettit. At Hawkstone they were fed in the tent under which the first anniversary of the battle of Waterloo was held. As antiquaries, they should have sat under Hotspur's tent. The recruiting officer (the Rev. E. Hill) did his work in so active a manner that all Shropshire was on the alert to feed the swarm of locusts in the shape of antiquaries that settled on Shrewsbury for the week, and ate and drank more like ordinary mortals than men deeply versed in Celts and old china. The meeting was attended by Mr. Octavius Morgan, celebrated for his highly-interesting collection of old chronometers, clocks, and watches. He is said to have sought in vain for the Shrewsbury clock immortalized by Shakespeare.

Antiquarians are indeed alive. All that remains of the British Archaeological Association is to assemble next week in the Isle of Wight—taking Southampton and Netley Abbey as offshoots of interest for visitation during the week. Gatherings like that just scattered at Shrewsbury, and this to come in the Isle of Wight, are much to be commended, if they are not pursued with an appetite intent rather on chickens and champagne than castles and cathedrals.

Murray of Albemarle-street and of the "Handbooks" has this year gone abroad himself, carrying his own books for correction and completion. He is travelling somewhat *incoq.*, but so potent a distributor of custom to hotels and inns has not been suffered to pass from town to town without industrious endeavours being made by landlords for a good word in his red handbooks. He "rains influence" and sits in judgment with clean hands, doggedly and indignantly refusing every bribe that the ingenuity of mine host can lay before him for a word of recommendation. It is impossible for so well-known a dispenser of patronage to travel unknown—and it is certainly desirable that books so properly esteemed by the public should have every advantage that further travel and careful revision can give them.

Mr. Thackeray, having finished his "Newcomes," is now actively intent on his forthcoming visit to America. He starts, we believe, in September, with four lectures, entirely new, and which will be delivered for the first time in America. His subjects are admirably selected. He has chosen the four Georges, assigning a lecture to each reign. What smart and true things will he say of Sophia-Dorothea, of Caroline of Anspach, of Charlotte-Sophia, of Caroline of Brunswick! His favourite Queen must necessarily be Caroline of Anspach, Queen of George II. She was a very able woman. Only conceive the bitterness and bright bits of Lord Hervey and Lord Orford—bittered and brightened by Mr. Michael Angelo Titmarsh! On the War of Independence, Mr. Thackeray must knock down a little to Jonathan, or he will not draw the dollars at Boston and New York. But he is sure to draw, and to express his own manly belief without fear or favour.

We had occasion some time back to chronicle the sympathy with the wants of an intelligent public, expressed and carried out by the Dean and Chapter of the Salisbury Cathedral, and we have now to record another graceful act on the part of the authorities of the same cathedral. The Dean actually directed the service to be delayed on Monday one hour, to enable a large party of excursionists by rail to see what it so happened they could not otherwise have seen—the graves of Catherine of Aragon, and of Mary Queen of Scots. The orderly behaviour of the whole party, and the intelligence shown by very many, made this little act one of no ordinary grace and propriety. The excursionists lent pleasure with the concession that had been made to them, and in a better spirit towards a Church to which many of them did not belong. It is a pity that a code of regulations applicable alike to the whole of our cathedrals is not at once devised and carried out.

There was a silly proposition in the House the other day to erect a statue of the late Mr. Joseph Hume among the statues of statesmen now in course of erection in the new Houses of Parliament. The proposition fell, of course, to the ground. Hume was an honest man, who rendered good service to his country by his pertinacious and at length successful endeavours for Reform. But "Joe" was not a statesman. To put him among the seven already erected—with Hampden and Falkland, with Selden and Mansfield, with Clarendon and Somers, with Sir Robert Walpole himself—would be simply absurd.

Scholars are asking, will any one of the twenty successful candidates for Indian writerships turn out men of mark like Clive, Warren Hastings, or Sir William Jones? Your early-ripe fruits are not, it is said, the best. Cramming gives undue advantages, but seldom leads to lasting reputations. The twenty have now to cram for other duties—they have yet to learn Sanscrit, and to speak Hindostanee. A readiness of learning one language necessarily implies a facility in acquiring another. But there are other qualities for active life in India than the knowledge of its language. It would not have been said of Sir Henry Wotton—

He had so many languages in store
That only Fame shall speak of him in more—

if to this readiness in learning languages he had not been blessed with big thoughts, to which he could give a like expression in any tongue.

AN INDIAN TIGER-HUNTING PARTY.—The tiger-hunting expedition—consisting of three officers from Lucknow, a representative from each regiment—which left that station in the middle of May, returned last week, after a month's shooting in the Seetapore district, and adjacent Terai. These sportsmen were not so successful as their exertions merited, and, after being under canvas during the hottest month of the year, only brought back with them as trophies of their hardihood six tigers and one leopard's skin; however, they brought back their own skins slightly embrowned with the exposure certainly, but in other respects none the worse of their trip.—*Central Star.*

FATAL ACCIDENT AT WOOLWICH ARSENAL.—A young man employed in bringing back from the marsh to the Arsenal damaged shells, was killed the other day by the explosion of one. The young man, who was carrying the shell on his shoulder, remarked to a fellow-workman that it was heavy, but that he might, perhaps, make it lighter by discharging the powder with which it was loaded through the nipple; to effect this, he removed it from his shoulder, and, taking it up with his hands, struck it against a stone in order to discharge the powder, which had been firmly rammed down. A terrific explosion was instantly heard, the powder igniting, the shell had burst, and the young man fell down dead.

At the special sessions held at Westminster by the High Constable, on Tuesday, the claims for compensation of persons who had their windows broken on the occasion of the rioting in Hyde-park were all disallowed.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

One of the leading features of the week has been the meeting of capitalists at the Turkish Ambassadors, respecting the new loan for the Ottoman Government, and the publication of the terms upon which it is proposed to raise the £5,000,000. It appears that the tenders are to be made in one sum at the Bank of England on Monday next; that the guaranteed interest will be 4 per cent; that the first deposit of 10 per cent will be payable on Wednesday the 22nd inst., and that the next two payments will be 20 per cent each. The whole amount must be paid up, under stringent regulations, before the close of January next, and no discount is to be allowed for payments in anticipation. Of course we are not in a position to state at what price the loan will be taken; but, as the stock has already borne a premium of from 3 to 4 per cent, it is pretty clear that the five millions will be raised.

Notwithstanding that an instalment of 10 per cent on the late Loan of £16,000,000 will become due on Tuesday next, and that the money market has been rather tight—though not tighter than last week—most National Securities have been tolerably firm, and prices generally have been well supported. The fluctuations in them have been trifling. The following prices were marked on Monday:—Bank Stock, 214; Three per Cents Reduced, 91½; Three per Cents Consols, 90½; New Three per Cents, 91½; Consols for Account, 91½. Long Annuities, 1850, 4 1-16; Ditto, 1855, 16 1-16; India Stock, 231½; India Bonds, 29s. to 32s.; Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 22s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds—both series—100½. Very little change took place in the general features of the market on Tuesday:—Bank Stock was 214½. The Three per Cents Reduced were done at 91½; the Three per Cents Consols, 91½ to 90½; Consols for Account, 91½; New Three per Cents, 92½ to 92½; Long Annuities, 1855, 16 1-16; India Stock, 232½; India Bonds, 28s. to 31s.; Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 21s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 100½. The dealings on the following day were by no means extensive. Bank Stock, 214½ to 215½. The Three per Cents Reduced were 92 to 91½; the Three per Cents Consols, 90½ to 91½; Consols for Account, 91½; the New Three per Cents, 92½; Long Annuities, 1855, 16 1-16; India Bonds, 27s. to 30s.; Exchequer Bills, 15s. to 20s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 100½ to 100½. On Tuesday Consols were steady. The Three per Cents were done at 90½ to 91½; and for the Account, 91½. The New Three per Cents realised 92½; and the Reduced, 91½. Exchequer Bills, 14s. to 18s.; India Bonds, 26s. prem.; Omnium, 4½ prem.

The Foreign-house has been steady, and we have very few changes no notice in prices. The leading quotations have been as follows:—Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 93½; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 56½; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 82; Portuguese Four per Cents, 42½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 57; Spanish Three per Cents, 37½; Ditto, New Deferred, 19; Turkish Six per Cents, 93½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 65; Dutch Four per Cents, 96½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90½; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90½; Ecuador, 4½; Austrian Five per Cents, 81½.

Very few shipments of bullion have been made to any quarter. The imports have amounted to about £300,000, chiefly from America and the West Indies. Several large parcels of silver have been sold for the East.

The return of the surplus deposits on the French Loan has been commended. The Scrip has touched 3 prem.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have continued very firm, and the quotations have been well supported.—Australasia have realised 95; City, 60½; London, 33½; London and Westminster, 47½; Oriental, 42½; Provincial of Ireland, 51½; South Australia, 40; Union of Australia, 73.

Miscellaneous Securities are sold as follows:—Agricultural, 30; British American Land, 60; Canada, 132½; Ditto, Six per Cents, 114½; Crystal Palace Preference, 55; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 18½; North of Europe Steam, 14½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 23; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 79; Royal Mail Steam, 61.

The following returns show the position of the Bank of France, and the fluctuations in the Stock of Bullion, &c., compared with the previous statement:

Coin and Bullion	£18,551,376	increase	£965,192
Bills discounted	18,547,584	"	3,233,616
Circulation	24,800,444	decrease	1,937,532
Treasury deposits	10,284,044	increase	7,933,616
Private deposits	6,165,312	"	74,390
Advances on Stock	2,440,514	"	606,220
Advances on Railway Shares	4,605,201	"	880,740

A considerable decline has taken place in the value of Great Western Railway Shares, owing to the small dividend—2 per cent: most other railway securities have been dull and rather drooping. The total "calls" for the present month have been now raised to £790,801. During the first eight months of the year they have amounted to £10,306,215 against £9,457,893 in 1854.

The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 63½; Chester and Holyhead, 12; Eastern Counties, 11½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 18½; Great Northern, 89½; Ditto, Bank Stock, 12½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 105; Great Western, 56½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 83½; London and Blackwall, 71; London and Brighton, 99; London and North-Western, 96½ ex div.; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 25½ ex div.; Midland, 71½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 43; North-Eastern, Berwick, 73½; Ditto, York, 48½; North Staffordshire, 10½; South Devon, 13½; Vale of Neath, 21½; Waterford and Kilkenny, 3½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 106; Great Western, Four per Cent, 87; Ditto, Five per Cent, 101½; Ditto, Birmingham Stock, 74½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 5½ ex div.; North Staffordshire, 22½.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 10; Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, 61; Dutch-Rhenish, 12½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 11½; Great Luxembourg Shares, 33½; Ditto, Obligations, 3½; Great Western of Canada Shares, 24½; Madras Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 20; Northern of France, 37½; Paris and Lyons, 40½; Sambre and Meuse, 9½; West Flanders, 43; Zealand, 18½.

In Mining Shares very little business has been done. On Thursday Brazilian Imperial were 2½; Ditto, Cocas and Cuiba, 3½; Copper Mines of England, 24; Copiapo, 19½; Pontgibaud Silver Lead, 14½; Santiago de Cuba, 5.

Friday Evening.
Consols have somewhat improved since the morning, but the business done in them has been trifling. The Three per Cents have been 90½ to 91 for Money, and 90½ 91½ for the Account. The Three per Cents Reduced are 91½; and the New Three per Cents 92½. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are dull.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—About an average time of year's supply of English wheat—2120 quarters—has been received up to our market this week, but the supply is not fresh as to-day by land carriage were small. Although the show of samples was but moderate, the trade ruled heavy, and most kinds were offered on rather lower terms. Over 10,000 quarters of foreign wheat have come to hand. The trade was in a depressed state, and the quotations were nominally the same as on Monday. In floating cargoes, very few transactions were reported. There was a moderate inquiry for barley at late rates; but malt and beer were the objects of the most active demand, and the trade ruled heavy, and prices a downward tendency. Beans, peas, and flour, as on Monday.

Arrivals this Week.—English: wheat, 2120; barley, 1140; malt, 3030; oats, 300; flour, 1340. Foreign: wheat, 10,800; barley, 7900; oats, 38,730; flour, 330 sacks.
English: Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 65s. to 75s.; ditto, white, 71s. to 81s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 68s. to 72s.; rye, 42s. to 45s.; grinding barley, 2s. to 3s.; distilling ditto, 2s. to 3s.; malt, 30s. to 31s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 65s. to 69s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 71s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 25s. to 27s.; potato, 20s. to 32s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 23s. to 24s.; ditto, white, 21s. to 27s.; tick beans, 38s. to 43s.; grey peas, 37s. to 40s.; mangel, 40s. to 42s.; white, 41s. to 45s.; boilers, 42s. to 47s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 56s. to 52s.; Stockton and York-shire, 52s. to 55s. per 200 lbs.

Seeds.—New trefoil has made its appearance, and several parcels of new rape have sold at very full prices. Most other seeds move off freely, at full quotations:—Linseed, Baltic, crushing, 61s. to 67s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 58s. to 69s.; hempseed, 41s. to 56s. per quarter. Corns of foreign oats having been heavy, the oat trade was dull, and prices a downward tendency. English rapeseed, new, £40 to £42 per last. Linseed cakes, English, £12 0s. to £12 10s.; ditto, foreign, £10 15s. to £12 5s.; rape cakes, £6 10s. to £6 15s. per ton. Canary, 48s. to 53s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 10½d.; of household ditto, 8½d. to 9d. per four-pound loaf.

Imported Weekly Average.—Wheat, 77s. 7d.; barley, 31s. 8d.; oats, 29s. 1d.; rye, 47s. 7d.; beans, 47s. 2d.; peas, 42s. 4d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 76s. 7d.; barley, 31s. 8d.; oats, 29s. 9d.; rye, 45s. 3d.; beans, 46s. 6d.; peas, 42s. 4d.

English Grain Sold last Week.—Wheat, 84,584; barley, 5546; oats, 8827; rye, 96; beans, 2200; peas, 343 quarters.

Tea.—At public sale, about 5000 packages have changed hands, at full prices. Privately, the demand is by no means active, yet the quotations are well supported.

Sugar.—Our market has ruled very firm, and full prices have been paid for all descriptions. Barbadoes has changed hands at 55s. 6d. to 58s. 6d.; crystallised Demerara, 37s. 6d. to 41s. 6d.; and Mauritius, 31s. to 41s. 6d. per cwt. Foreign sugars, all sorts, have sold freely, at full prices. The refined market rules firm, and late rates are well supported. Refined goods are in request, at from 47s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt.

Coffee.—The inquiry for most kinds has become inactive, and prices have given way 6d. to 1s. per cwt. The stock in warehouse is considerably less than last year.

Rice.—Most kinds are a slow sale, but we have no decline in the prices obtained on Monday of 24s. per 8 lbs. Prime down sheep were scarce, and in request, at full quotations. Half-breeds sold steadily; but no improvement took place in their value. We were well supplied with lambs, and the trade for them ruled heavy, at barely stationary prices. The supply of calves was extensive, and the real trade ruled slow, at 14s. currencies. In pigs very little was doing. Milch cows were steady, at from £11 to £29 each, including their small calf.

Hay and Straw.—Old meadow hay, £4 0s. to £6 6s.; new ditto, £5 0s. to £6 0s.; old clover, £4 15s. to £6 0s.; new ditto, £5 5s. to £6 0s.; and straw, £1 4s. to £1 9s. per load.

Trade Steep.—We have had rather more business doing in hops this week, but no advance has taken place in prices. Last year's produce is selling from £7 to £11 per cwt. Very favourable accounts continue to reach us from the plantations, and the duty is called £170,000 to £200,000.

Cattle (Friday).—Hidwell, 18s.; Haswell, 21s.; Hutton, 21s.; Lambton, 20s. 6d.; Seaham, 20s.; Plummer, 20s.; Stewart, 21s.; Kelloe, 20s. 2d. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—To-day's market was rather extensively supplied with beasts in very middling condition. All breeds moved off slowly, at a decline in the prices obtained on Monday of 24s. per 8 lbs. Prime down sheep were scarce, and in request, at full quotations. Half-breeds sold steadily; but no improvement took place in their value. We were well supplied with lambs, and the trade for them ruled heavy, at barely stationary prices. The supply of calves was extensive, and the real trade ruled slow, at 14s. currencies. In pigs very little was doing. Milch cows were steady, at from £11 to £29 each, including their small calf.

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Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The general demand ruled very inactive, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; ditto small ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; large pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; small pork, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; lamb, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.

ROBERT HERRICK.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, AUG. 14.

WAR-OFFICE, AUGUST 14TH.

Medical Staff Corps: Capt. R. S. Cole to be Assistant Staff Captain.

BANKRUPTS.

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SCOTCH REQUISITION.

J. KILGOUR, Auchtertool, Fife-shire, baker.

FRIDAY, AUG. 17.

WAR-OFFICE, AUGUST 17.

Royal Horse Guards: General Viscount Gough, G.C.B., to be Colonel.

5th Dragoon Guards: Surgeon W. G. Trousdale, to be Surgeon.

6th Dragoon Guards: Lieut. P. Pinckney to be Captain; Cornet H. A. Wright to be Lieutenant.

8th Light Dragoons: G. Hanbury to be Captain; Cornet G. S. Davies to be Lieutenant.

10th Light Dragoons: Lieut. C. P. Rosser to be Captain; Cornet G. S. Davies to be Lieutenant.

Royal Artillery: Gentlemen Cadets J. R. Dyer, K. Moore, L. Staveley, W. Gilmore, R. P. L. Welch, J. W. J. Welch, J. W. J. Dawson, H. Edmeades, J. M. Burn, S. J. Nicholson, W. Smith, W. Newman, E. J. Tremlett, T. A. Robinson, G. M. Campbell, G. E. Maule, W. D. Carey, A. G. Miller, E. C. Macgregor, L. B. H. Parsons, R. W. Phelps, J. C. Caveadish, R. Sandhu, G. E. Cul-lender, A. A. Stewart, Hon. R. V. Dillon, and E. S. Burnett, to be Lieutenants.

Royal Engineers: Gentlemen Cadets G. D. Pritchard, E. S. Tyler, E. H. Brooke, C. E. Wynn, R. Harrison, E. H. Courtney, K. M. P. Sandford, R. Bullen, H. H. Jones, A. T. Storer, J. T. Twigg, R. G. Thorald, G. S. Herkley, G. H. Brooke, E. Mitchell, and J. Garnier, to be Lieutenants.

1st Foot-Lieut. T. J. Gregory to be Captain; Capt. C. Holder to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel; Ensign and Lieut. A. C. Campbell to be Lieutenant and Captain; J. F. H. Elphinstone to be Ensign and Lieutenant.

1st Foot-Lieut. T. J. Gregory to be Captain; Capt. C. Holder to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel; Ensign and Lieut. A. C. Campbell to be Lieutenant and Captain; J. F. H. Elphinstone to be Ensign and Lieutenant.

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1st Foot-Lieut.

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manthum, while the class of Entertainments presented within its
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man; and "a magic wand" which would make the alchemist of an
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Wizard's Banquet of Wonders. It will be an ordinary to which he
will welcome all. The bill of fare will shortly be published in the
programme now preparing; and the Professor Anderson, the carver of
the feast, will go on to please the taste of every guest who may
honour his table with his presence—cutting it fat or lean as
each may wish. The Royal Lyceum Theatre will be OPENED by
the Wizard of the North, as his Psycho-manthum, on MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 3rd.

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7. Citron—Deep Lemon. 24. Paille—Straw.
8. Violet. 25. Croupe—very Light Brown.
9. Rose. 26. Salmon.
10. Napoléon—Bright Blue. 27. Poudre—Slate.
11. Napoléon—Bright Blue. 28. Coffee.
12. Napoléon—Bright Blue. 29. Rivan d'Espagne—Dahlia.
13. Corinthe—Light Green. 30. Adelaide.
14. Lilac. 31. Mastic—Claret.
15. Maroon Clair—Light Brown. 32. Olive.
16. White. 33. Maroon fonce—Dark Brown.
17. Nature—Canary. 34. Ruby.

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durance, and softness that no other Gloves can possibly compete with.
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The Real Alpine Kid Gloves, with the Registered Eugénie Latchet-
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DEAUX.—HAIR FRIZZETTES of superior manufacture, in-
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the leading London Newspapers have already given articles
on the importance of all householders being provided with this
certain means of rescuing themselves on the sudden outbreak of Fire.
—The Manufacturers of this new invention are Messrs. D. and E.
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FAMILY FIRE-ESCAPE, so strongly recommended last month by
five of the leading London newspapers.

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CUTS, invaluable for Invalids and the Nursery, sold in
Tins of 10 lb. and 4 lb. each, may be obtained through any Grocer in
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Capital of 4,000,000 frs., the extensive Machinery of two large Fac-
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purity of Haylock and Co.'s process of manufacture, see Dr. Sheridan
Murray's "Chemistry," Part 12.—Manufacturers, 9,



PALACE OF ST. CLOUD, THE RESIDENCE OF HER MAJESTY.—THE ORANGERY.—(SEE PAGE 206.)



THE FOUNTAINS OF ST. CLOUD — (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

DESPATCH FROM GENERAL SIMPSON.

War Department, August 13.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by General Simpson, commanding her Majesty's forces in the East:—

Before Sebastopol, July 31.

My Lord,—I beg to enclose the list of casualties to the 29th instant, which I regret to say are very heavy.

The proximity of our works to those of the enemy, together with the lightness of the night, and rocky nature of the ground, making it impossible to obtain rapid cover, materially contributes to such a result; notwithstanding which disadvantages our engineers continue steadily, though slowly, to advance in the direction of the Great Redan.

An agreeable change has taken place the last few days in the temperature of the weather; heavy showers of rain have occasionally fallen.

Several reconnoissances have been made from the valley of Baidar towards Ozenbakh, Aitodor, and through the Phoros Pass towards Alupka, the enemy nowhere appearing in any force; but the narrowness of the mountain roads, with the exception of the Wronzow, makes it unnecessary for them to alter their concentrated position on the heights of Mackenzie and plateau of the Belbek.

The health of the troops continues very satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

JAMES SIMPSON,

The Lord Panmure, &c.

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM THE 27TH TO THE 29TH JULY, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED.

27th July.—31st Foot: Private Philip Larkin. 34th: Private Henry Bentley. 41st: Private Michael Conlon. 44th: Private James Collins. 7th: Sergeant Daniel Casey. 28th July.—54th Foot: Private Thomas Toole. 97th: Private Henry Jay. Royal Artillery: Gunner John Quin.

29th July.—3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards: Private Wm. D. Lloyd. 31st Foot: Private Thomas Gilman. 93rd: Private John Kennedy. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private William Ninds.

WOUNDED.

19th Foot: Lieutenant A. Goren, slightly. 4th: Captain L. Thornton, slightly. 40th: Major C. F. Camoell, Assistant-Engineer, slightly. 58th: Captain N. Stevens, slightly. 79th: Assistant-Surgeon E. L. Lundy, slightly.

July 27.—2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Privates Thomas Curley, William Beattie, slightly. 4th: Privates James Curley, slightly; Patrick Carron, slightly; William Hurdie, dangerously; John Longueux, severely. 7th: Privates William Mercer, William Graham, slightly. 17th: Privates Peter Maillon, Patrick Murphy, severely. 19th: Privates Henry Haldworth, mortally; Peter Lee, George Boyce, severely; Patrick Ryan, Edward Connor, Thomas Measures, William Weedon, Patrick Baldwin, slightly. 31st: Private John Talbot, slightly. 33rd: Privates Timo by King, Peter Pickett, Daniel Milford, slightly. 49th: Private John Gratton, severely. 50th: Private John Archer, slightly. 55th: Private Thomas Holahan, slightly. 57th: Private Gilbert Shanks, severely. 62nd: Private Henry Ross, slightly. 65th: Private Samuel McEldowney, severely. 77th: Sergeant Isaac Sackman, slightly; Privates Charles Johnson, severely; James Fadden, David Baker, John Bryan, John Bennett, slightly. 88th: Private John Aliman, slightly. 90th: Private John Shanetti, severely. 97th: Corporal James Fitzgerald, slightly. Privates Thomas Langley, severely; Matthew Collins slightly. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private Samuel Holahan, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Privates James Drummond, severely; Francis Collins, slightly; Frederick Stewart, slightly.

July 28th.—4th Foot: Private John Kene, slightly. 17th: Private Patrick Connelly, slightly. 19th: Private William Ingram, slightly. 44th: Lance-Corporal John Evans, slightly. 49th: Private Samuel Montgomery, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Privates James Macdonnell, severely; Edward Marrett, William Salter, slightly. Royal Artillery: Gunner Frederick Holmes, slightly. Royal Sappers and Miners: Private Robert Sharp, severely.

July 29th.—3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards: Sergeant Thomas Marsh, severely. Privates George Bowler, Thomas Marsden, Robert Ellingham, William Weir, Caleb Cox, Thomas Calkin, dangerously; Michael Fielding, severely; Frederick Bowland, Edward Jones, Frederick Widdison, slightly. 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards: Privates John Potbury, George Philpot, severely; Alfred J. Hase, Samuel Day, William Mason, Hiram Green, John Sisson, slightly. 1st Battalion Scotch Fusilier Guards: Privates Clem. Scott, dangerously; Peter Rensay, W. H. Orchard, slightly; Robert Lynch, severely. 3rd Foot: Private John Quirk, slightly. 17th: Privates Thomas Cambridge, Thomas Kelly, slightly. 21st: Private William Mullar, severely. 30th: Privates John Mottrickian, slightly; W. Sisson, severely. 41st: Privates James McGath, Patrick McEee, severely. 42nd: Privates James O'Neil, Thomas Thompson, slightly. 44th: Private John Wilkinson, slightly. 55th: Corporal Joseph Smith, severely; Privates Robert Calder, mortally; Charles Crowther, Patrick McPora, d. John Hogan, Charles H. Lane, William Fahey, slightly; Thomas Martin, severely. 62nd: Privates William Freeman, James Berry, slightly. 68th: Privates John Bearn, John Carmichael, severely; John Connors, slightly. 72nd: Private David Marshall, severely. 79th: Privates William McGinty, James Swenny, Robert McDonald, slightly. 94th: Privates Robert Baxter, slightly; Alexander Ross, severely. 96th: Private James Callaghan, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private George Mortimore, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Private Alexander Peters, slightly.

ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE July 21 to 24.—Wounded: George Woodman, ord., London, slightly; John Stone, ord., Queen, severely; Patrick Hailey, ord., Queen, severely; Edward Clewett, A.B., Leander, slightly; Robert Holman, ord., Queen, severely; Alfred Carey, ord., Queen, slightly; William Goss, A.B., Albion, slightly; R. Gurney, captain foretop, London, severely; William Leary, ord., London, slightly; Charles Jacobs, ord., Vaux, slightly; John Joggard, A.B., Rodney, slightly; John Winnicott, A.B., Rodney, slightly. Continued: Samuel Lohblank, A.B., Queen, slightly; Thomas Cneel, ord., Queen, slightly.

DESPATCHES FROM SIR E. LYONS.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF STORES IN THE SEA OF AZOFF.

Admiralty, August 13, 1855.

Despatches, of which the following are copies, have been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean and Black Sea:—

Royal Albert, off Sebastopol, July 30, 1855.

Sir,—In continuation of the proceedings of the steam squadron in the Sea of Azoff, under the orders of Commander Sherard Osborn of the *Vesuvius*, I beg leave to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of two letters from that officer, together with the several inclosures reporting the steps taken to deprive the enemy of the new harvest, and to cripple his resources of all kinds, since the proceedings which were communicated in my letter of the 7th inst.

During the time the squadron was detained from stress of weather, under Beruth Spit, near Ghenitch, the vessels were, at every break of the weather, employed in destroying extensive fishing establishments, which supplied the army in the Crimea with fish, as well as guard-houses, barracks, stores of forage, and provisions on the Isthmus of Arabat; and the pontoon, or only means of communication between Arabat Spit and the Crimea, at the entrance of the Kara-su River, was burnt by Commander Rowley Lambert of the *Curlew*. The attack and destruction of Fort Petrovskoi, on the 16th instant, by the combined English and French squadrons named in Commander Osborn's letter, appears to have been accomplished with the usual skill and success which has attended the operations in the Sea of Azoff; and their Lordships will observe that particular mention is made of Lieutenant Hubert Campion, Senior Lieutenant of the *Vesuvius*, who commanded the landing party, and rendered great service. I would particularly beg leave to call their Lordships' attention to the high-minded conduct of Captain De Cintré, of his Imperial Majesty's steamer *Mulan*, who, on seeing that the bulk of the squadron was under the orders of Commander Osborn, to whom he was senior, waived his right to plan the attack, and placed his ship, as well as the *Mouette*, in the positions pointed out by Commander Osborn.

In the mean time Lieutenant Hewett, in the *Beagle*, destroyed an extensive collection of fish stores, and two large granaries full of corn, in the neighbourhood of Berdiansk.

After destroying Fort Petrovskoi, the squadron proceeded to Glofira, where some extensive corn and fish stores were destroyed by vessels under the orders of Commander Rowley Lambert, of the *Curlew*; and a similar service was performed at the Crooked Spit, in the Gulf of Azoff, by vessels under the orders of Commander F. A. B. Craufurd, of the *Swallow*. In the meantime Commander Osborn, reconnoitred various parts of the coast as far as Taganrog.

The reports of Commander Osborn are so comprehensive that I will only remark that the admirable manner in which he has carried out my instructions "to clear the sea-board of all fish stores, all fisheries, and mills on a scale beyond the wants of the neighbouring population, and indeed of all things destined to contribute to the maintenance of the enemy's army in the Crimea," fully corroborates the opinion I have before expressed, that he is an officer possessing a rare combination of high qualities, and I beg to recommend him to their Lordships' most favourable consideration.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

EDMUND LYONS,

The Secretary of the Admiralty, &c.

H.M.S. *Vesuvius*, Gulf of Azoff, July 17, 1855.

Sir,—Heavy gales and much sea obliged the squadron in this sea to take shelter under Beruth Spit for several days. Coaling, provisioning, and completing stores were, however, proceeded with, and at every break in the weather the vessels were actively employed destroying some extensive fisheries upon Beruth Spit, as well as guard-houses, barracks, and stores of forage and provisions, to within an easy gun-shot of Arabat Fort. The only pontoon or means of communication between Arabat Spit and the Crimea, at the entrance of the Kara-su River, has been burnt by Commander Rowley Lambert, H.M.S. *Curlew*, and we have now entire possession of the spit. A lull in the weather enabled me to put to sea upon the 13th July, for a sweep round the Sea of Azoff; the *Arden*, *Weser*, and *Clinker* being left under the orders of Lieutenant Herten, to harass Ghenitch and Arabat, as well as to cut off all communication along the spit.

Delayed by the weather, we did not reach Berdiansk until the 15th July. A heavy sea was running, but, anxious to lose no time, the senior officer of the French squadron (Captain De Cintré, of the *Mulan*) and myself determined to go at once and endeavour to burn the forage and corn-stacks upon the landward side of the hills overlooking the town.

No inhabitants were to be seen, but the occasional glimpse of soldiers showed that a landing was expected, and that they were prepared for a street fight. I hoisted a flag of truce, in order, if possible, to get the women and children removed from the town, but as that met with no reply, and the surf rendered landing extremely hazardous, I hauled it down, and the squadron commenced to fire over the town at the forage and corn stacked behind it, and I soon had the satisfaction of seeing a fire break out exactly where it was wanted. The

town was not touched except by an occasional shell. The wheat and forage being fired it became necessary to move into deeper water for the night, and from our distant anchorage the fires were seen burning throughout the night.

On the 16th July the Allied squadron proceeded to Port Petrovskoi, between Berdiansk and Mariopol. As I approached the place there were evident symptoms of an increase to the fortifications since the *Vesuvius* silenced its fire three weeks ago. A redan, covering the curtain which faces the sea, showed seven new embrasures, and much new earth led me to expect some masked works.

Captain De Cintré, commanding the French steamer *Mulan*, although my senior, in the most handsome manner surrendered the right of planning the attack, and, keeping alone in view of the good of the Allied cause, gallantly took up the position I wished him to do, followed by Capt. de l'Allemand, in the *Mouette*.

At 9.30 a.m., all arrangements being made, the squadron named in the margin took up their positions. The light draught gun-boats taking up stations east and west of the fort, and enfilading the works in front and rear; whilst the heavier vessels formed a semicircle round the front. The heavy nature of our ordnance crushed all attempts at resistance, and soon forced not only the garrison to retire from the trenches, but also kept at a respectable distance the reserve force, consisting of three strong battalions of infantry and two squadrons of cavalry.

We then commenced to fire with carcasses; and, although partially successful, I was obliged to send the light boats of the squadron to complete the destruction of the fort and batteries—a duty I entrusted to Lieut. Hubert Campion, of the *Vesuvius*.

In a short time I had the satisfaction of seeing all the cantonment, gun-platforms, public buildings, corn and forage stores on fire, and the embrasures of the earthworks seriously injured; and, although the enemy, from an earthwork to the rear, opened a sharp fire upon our men, Lieut. Campion completed this service in the most able and perfect manner, without the loss of one man.

Lieut. Campion reports that the fort was fully as formidable as it appeared from the ships; the platforms were laid ready, but the guns either had not yet arrived, or had been withdrawn by the enemy. Leaving the *Swallow*, Commander Craufurd, to check any attempt of the enemy to reoccupy the fort and extinguish the fire until the destruction was complete, the rest of the squadron proceeded to destroy great quantities of forage, and some most extensive fisheries, situated upon the White House Spit, and about the mouth of the River Berda. By dark the work was done; and thirty fisheries, numbers of heavy launches, and great store of salted fish, nets, and gear, as well as much forage, had fallen into our hands, in spite of considerable numbers of Cossack horse.

Nothing could exceed the zeal and energy displayed by every officer and man throughout the day; and the skillful manner in which the various officers in command of her Majesty's vessels took up their positions in the morning, the beautiful accuracy of the fire, and the care with which the squadron was handled in shallow water, deserve to be called to your favourable notice. The able and cheerful co-operation of the French throughout the day was beyond all praise. I have, &c.,

(Signed)

SHERARD OSBORN,

Commander and Senior Officer.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B.,

Commander-in-Chief.

Her Majesty's ship *Vesuvius*, Gulf of Azoff, July 21.

Sir,—The day I closed my last report to you, the *Beagle*, Lieutenant Hewett, was detached to Berdiansk.

Lieutenant Hewett rejoined me yesterday, and reports that one of the Russian sunken vessels was blown up. Lieutenant Hewett, the same evening, landed under cover of his vessel's guns, and destroyed an extensive collection of fish stores, and two large granaries full of corn.

On the 17th July, in consequence of information received of extensive depôts of corn and forage existing at a town called Glofira, upon the Asiatic coast, near Gheisk, I proceeded there with the squadron, accompanied by the French steamers *Mulan* and *Mouette*. The *Vesuvius* and *Swallow* were obliged to anchor some distance off shore, I therefore sent Commander Rowley Lambert (her Majesty's ship *Curlew*), with the gun-boats named on the margin to reconnoitre in force; and, if an opportunity occurred to destroy any stores of provisions or of forage, he was to do so. Commander Lambert found Glofira and its neighbourhood swarming with cavalry; the town an open, straggling, agricultural village, and no appearance of corn or forage in it; he therefore very properly confined his operations to destroying, upon Glofira Spit, some very extensive corn and fish stores, but spared the town. The skill with which this service was executed, in the face of large bodies of cavalry, reflects no small credit upon Commander Lambert; and he speaks most highly of the able assistance rendered him by the French officers and men under Captains De Cintré and de l'Allemand.

From Glofira I next proceeded to the Crooked Spit, in the Gulf of Azoff, the French squadron parting company to harass the enemy in the neighbourhood of Kam sheva and Obotekina.

The squadron reached Crooked Spit the same day (July 18); and I immediately ordered Commander Frederick Craufurd, in the *Swallow*, supported by the gun-boats *Grinder*, *Boxer*, and *Cracker*, and the boats of her Majesty's ships *Vesuvius*, *Curlew*, and *Fancy*, under Lieutenants Grylls, Rowley, and Sullivan, to proceed and clear the spit of the cavalry and Cossacks of the enemy, and then land and destroy the great fishing establishments situated upon it. Commander Craufurd executed this service with great vigour, and his report I have the honour to inclose. The extraordinary quantity of nets and stores of fish, and the scale of the works destroyed, fully confirm the statements made by the workpeople, that their occupation consisted in supplying food to the army in the Crimea, everything going to Simpheropol by the great northern road along the steppe. Whilst this service was being executed, I reconnoitred the mouth of the river Mious, fifteen miles west of Taganrog, in her Majesty's ship *Jasper*, Lieutenant J. S. Hudson. The shallow nature of the coast would not allow us to approach within a mile and three quarters of what in the chart is marked as Fort Temenos. The fortification was an earthwork of some extent, and ditched, but not pierced for guns. It was evidently of an old date, and, as I could see no one within it, I again returned to the same place, accompanied by the boats of her Majesty's ships *Vesuvius* and *Curlew*, and her Majesty's gun-vessels *Cracker*, *Boxer*, and *Jasper*.

Cavalry in large bodies, armed for the most part with carbines or rifles, were evidently much harassed by riding upon supposed points of attack; and when we got to Fort Temenos, and the usual Cossack picket had been driven off, I and Commander Lambert proceeded at once with the light boats into the river. When there, and immediately under Fort Temenos, which stands upon a steep escarp of eighty feet, we found ourselves looked down upon by a large body of both horse and foot, lining the ditch and parapet of the work. Landing on the opposite bank, at good rifle-shot distance, one boat's crew, under Lieutenant Rowley, was sent to destroy a collection of launches and a fishery, whilst a careful and steady fire of Minié rifles kept the Russians from advancing upon us. Assuring ourselves of the non-existence of any object worth hazarding so small a force any farther, we returned to the vessels, passing within pistol-shot of the Russian ambuscade. The cool steadiness of the officers and men in the gigs, together with the wonderful precision of the fire from the covering vessels, distant as they were, doubtless kept the enemy in check, and prevented serious consequences. To Commander Lambert, Lieutenants Grylls and Rowley, and Mr. Tabuteau (mate), who were in the gigs, as well as to Lieutenants Marryatt, Townshend, and Hudson, who commanded the gun-vessels, my best thanks are due.

The gig of the *Grinder*, under Lieutenant Hamilton, had a narrow escape upon the same day from a similar ambuscade, at a place called Kirpe, ten miles east of Mariopol; the very proper humanity of Lieutenant Hamilton in not firing into an open defenceless town, as it appeared to him, having nigh entailed the loss of a boat's crew when he attempted to land and destroy a corn store. A heavy fire of musketry at half-pistol shot providentially injured no one, and Lieutenant Hamilton appears to have most skillfully escaped.

The 19th July, I reconnoitred Taganrog in the *Jasper* gun-boat. A new battery was being constructed upon the heights near the hospital, but, although two shots were thrown into it, it did not reply.

Every part of the town showed signs of the injuries it had received, when we visited it, under the late Captain Edmund Lyons, of the *Miranda*. The long series of Government stores burnt by the Allied flotilla had not been repaired, and the only sign of any communication being now held, by water, with the Don, was one large barge upon the beach.

To put a stop, however, to all traffic of this nature, and to harass the enemy in this neighbourhood, I have ordered Commander Craufurd to remain in the Gulf of Azoff, with two gun-vessels under his orders. That the squadron has not been idle I trust this report will show; and, without entering more into details than I have done, I can assure you, Sir, that from Ghenitch to Taganrog, and thence round to Kamishewa, we have kept the coast in a state of constant alarm, and their troops incessantly moving. The good service done by the gun-boats in this way has been very great.

The total amount of provisions, corn, fisheries, forage, and boats destroyed has been something enormous.

Nothing can exceed the zeal or activity of the officers, or good conduct of the men, constituting this squadron; and constant work does not, I am happy to say, appear as yet to impair their health.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) SHERARD OSBORN,

Commander and Senior Officer.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., &c.

* *Vesuvius*, Commander Sherard Osborn; *Curlew*, Commander Rowley Lambert; *Swallow*, Commander F. A. B. Craufurd; *Fancy*, Lieutenant C. G. Grylls; *Grinder*, Lieutenant F. Hamilton; *Boxer*, Lieutenant S. P. Townshend; *Cracker*, Lieutenant J. H. Marryat; *Wrangler*, Lieutenant H. Burgoyne; *Jasper*, Lieutenant J. S. Hudson; *Beagle*, Lieutenant W. N. Hewett.

† *Fancy*, *Grinder*, *Boxer*, *Cracker*, *Jasper*, *Wrangler*, boats of *Vesuvius* and *Swallow*.

Her Majesty's ship *Swallow*, off Crooked Spit, Sea of Azoff, July 15, 1855.

Sir,—In compliance with your orders, I proceeded in her Majesty's steam gun-boat *Grinder*, with *Cracker* and *Boxer*, and boats of the squadron, to reconnoitre the Crooked Spit.

Having cleared the spit of some mounted troops who occupied it, I ordered a detachment of boats, with their respective officers, to land and destroy the immense fishing establishments and nets found upon the point of it. The country seemed swarming with cavalry, but, by the able management of the officers in command of the gun-boats, and by their good fire, they were effectually driven off the spit some distance inland.

Having reconnoitred as far into the land as we could see from the mast-head of the *Grinder*, all the boats were ordered to land and set fire to very large and extensive Government stores upon the upper part of the spit, including large fishing establishments, an enormous quantity of nets, haystacks, and several large houses used as Government stores. I learnt from a Russian fisherman, that the fish caught on this spit, and cured here, was immediately forwarded to Simpheropol, for the use of the Crimean army; and I conclude that a very severe blow has been inflicted upon the enemy by the amount of property which was destroyed, including spars, timber, fish, nets, and boats—apparently the most extensive fishing establishment in the Sea of Azoff; and I am happy to say without a casualty. My thanks are due to Lieutenants Hamilton, of *Grinder*, and Townshend, of *Boxer*, as also to Lieutenants Rowley, of *Curlew*; Grylls, of *Fancy*; Sullivan, of *Vesuvius*; Mr. Aldrich, Master of *Swallow*; Mr. Deare, Gunner of *Curlew*; and Mr. Windsor, Gunner of *Swallow*; who all and each by their zeal and activity rendered great service in destroying so large an accumulation of stores and houses in so short a space of time.

I have, &c.,

FRED. A. B. CRAUFURD,

Commander Osborn, Senior Officer.

Commander.

A METHOD OF LAYING THE GUNS OF A BATTERY WITHOUT EXPOSING THE MEN TO THE SHOT OF THE ENEMY.

BY CHARLES BABBAGE, ESQ.

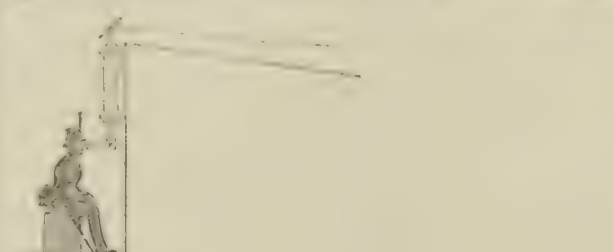
THE numerous casualties, chiefly by rifle-shot, which have occurred to those employed in pointing guns at the object of attack, and also in examining their effect after their discharge, induced me to recur to means which had previously been devised for reconnoitring with security. The highest skill is required in the man who points the gun, his safety is, therefore, to be considered first.

In pointing a gun at the object to be hit the two sights of the gun and the distant object must be brought into the same line. To do this a man stands behind the gun and looks along that line. But if, instead of a man in that position, we put a good common looking-glass inclined at an angle with the line of direction, the coincidence of the two sights and the distant object can then be made by an observer placed in other positions.

In the annexed sketch the officer is placed in the corner of a battery (at A), where neither rifle nor round shot can reach. He may either point the gun by his eye, may employ a common opera-glass, or he may use a small telescope, which, if required, might be fixed to a post.

In laying guns by means of a telescope some little difficulty may occur from the fact that the object not being the same. This difficulty can be much diminished by placing the looking-glass at a greater distance behind the gun. In fact, with a simple inverting telescope of very low power, or with a common opera-glass, a very moderate distance will render both objects sufficiently distinct.

The angular position and elevation of the gun must be adjusted by directions from the officer to the men attending the gun. These adjustments must be contrived by screws, or other means, so as to be made by the men when screened from direct fire.



When the officer is satisfied that all the guns are well laid, he must then turn to a telescope (B) attached vertically to the parapet. Fixed to the telescope by an arm reaching above the parapet, must be another small looking-glass, having an angular motion on its horizontal axis. This telescope may consist of a single lens of from three to eight feet focus, and have attached to its eyeglass a small prism to turn the vertical rays into a horizontal direction (See B, fig. 2).

The officer, having adjusted his telescope on the point he is battering, may then observe the united effect of all the guns; or he may cause them to be fired in succession, waiting between each shot until the smoke has cleared away, in order that he may judge of the precision with which each gun has been laid. The plan of seeing round a corner by means of a small bit of looking-glass, has been long known and described in books on the amusements of science. A repetition of the combination constitutes the toy by which children are surprised to find they can see through a deal board. In a different form, by means of an inclined mirror concealed within the tube, the frequenter of the theatre points his glass in one direction whilst he surveys the real object of his attraction in another. Such a telescope when used behind a wall or a tree becomes a safe reconnoitring telescope.

THE "LADY NANCY" RAFT.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Silchester Rectory, Basingstoke, Hants,
11th August, 1855.

FEELING confident that in your widely circulated and valuable paper you would not allow any representation calculated to transfer the merit of an invention from an officer to whom it belongs to other parties, however deserving, I beg, in reference to your sketch and description of the *Lady Nancy* raft, to inform you that it was constructed on board her Majesty's ship *Stromboli*, from an original plan of my son, Commander Cowper Phipps Coles, in command of that ship, and put together under his special superintendence.

Commander C. P. Coles sent to me a sketch of the raft soon after the bombardment of Taganrog, but I did not publish it, under the impression that it might not be approved by the authorities at home, and that he would, of course, have all the credit, to which he was so clearly entitled, as the originator of the celebrated Raft; but his name, to my astonishment and regret, is altogether omitted.

My son commanded the boats which, together with the *Lady Nancy*, were so efficient in the bombardment and destruction of the stores at Taganrog, and most honourable mention is made of him in the despatch of the late Commodore, Captain E. M. Lyons, whose loss is so deeply and universally deplored.

I shall be much obliged by the insertion of this letter in your next Number, and am your obedient humble servant,

JOHN COLES.

RAISING OF SUNKEN TRANSPORT STEAMERS.—A short time ago the steam-ship *Impetuous* sank off Dunquerque while on her voyage from Woolwich to the Crimea, with shot, shell, &c. on board, the night being dark and calm with a strong breeze. Efforts to raise her have been made for the purpose of raising her, and these were on Saturday brought to a successful termination, the vessel having been raised and towed towards the land, and there grounded, where she at present remains.

DUNSMO FITCH CONTINUED.—Messrs. Fitch and Son, of London, merchants, have offered, for old association's sake, as their family originally came from Dunsmo, two batches of bacon for 1855, on the usual conditions, to two couples; and one of the two couples who had made the claim writes thus:—"If we should be so fortunate as to obtain the prize in 1855, we shall provide fitches of bacon for 1857, perhaps something more."

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

The whole of the enrolled pensioners in Ireland are called out this month for ten days' exercise.

The disembodied allowance of 2s. 6d. a day, heretofore granted to retired Militia officers, is now withdrawn, their regiments being again embodied.

The Antrim Rifles gave fifteen volunteers to the regular army last week. This makes up their full quota on the establishment (25 per cent on 1000 men).

By a recent decision of the Admiralty, the proceeds of the Russian prizes lately captured by revenue cruisers are not to be divided among the captors.

Nearly one thousand gentlemen were appointed to commissions in the Army between the 1st of January and the 1st of July. In July, upwards of 200 commissions were conferred on candidates.

The Government has effected another large contract with Colonel Colt for his celebrated weapons, which are to be supplied to the officers of both services, and to those in the Turkish Contingent under Major-General Shirley.

LAST WEEK Mr. Thomas Jamieson, of the Victualling Yard, Deptford, temporarily appointed inspector of provisions, examined, at the Royal William Victualling Yard, Plymouth, about 12,000 barrels of beef and pork, supplied by contract to the Government, and received at that establishment from the storekeeper at Haulbowline, Cork. It is stated that the officers at Plymouth consider about one half of the stores unfit for Government use, and that Mr. Jamieson has confirmed their opinion. It appears that the beef and pork have become rusty through being packed in inferior casks, which have permitted the pickle to leak.

It is said there is some intention of organising garrison and veteran battalions, on a similar system to that adopted during the Peninsular War. Pensioners from the land forces will be eligible, but the majority of both officers and men will consist of those who, from slight wounds, are rendered incapable of performing active duties in the field, are yet fit for garrison service at home and in the Colonies. When the battalions are organised and disciplined, which will not occupy much time, the Government will be enabled to withdraw some regiments of the line from Bermuda, the West Indies, and Canada for the Crimea.

The Government has entered into large contracts for fur clothing for the troops in the Crimea. The number to be supplied is—coats, lined with rabbit-fur, 45,000; trousers, ditto, 45,000; and fur waistcoats, 45,000; 10,000 of each of the foregoing articles of a better description are also to be supplied. The waterproof clothing contracted for is to consist of 50,000 cloaks with sleeves, 50,000 capes, and 60,000 ox-hide boots, impervious to snow-water. The greater portion of the above mentioned is to be delivered into store by the 1st of September.

PLANS are at present under the consideration of the Government for fortifying the island of Inchkeith. It is proposed to erect a battery just under the lighthouse. The Martello Tower at Leith has recently received its full complement of guns; and other works for the protection of Aberdeen, Dundee, &c., are being carried into effect.

MESSRS. LOSH, WILSON, and BELL, of the Walker Iron Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne, have completed a large order for shells for the Turkish Government; and they are now engaged in the manufacture of 25,000 shells, from 8-inch to 13-inch, besides a number of mortars, for the British Government. Their foundry is now exclusively employed in the construction of implements of war.

CAPTAIN GOSSETT, Royal Engineers, son of Major Gossett, Barrackmaster at Cork, has obtained the appointment of Surveyor-General in Ceylon. The salary is £1200 a year.

THERE are at the present time 400 tons of 13-inch shells being put on board lighters at the Royal Arsenal, for conveyance to Southampton, where they are to be shipped on board some of the large transports for the Crimea. A number of workmen in the Arsenal are engaged in plugging up 15,000 10-inch common shells, to make hollow shot of them, by a piece of hot iron being put into the fuse-hole and then hammered tight in. They are intended for the use of the navy, and when fired it is said they split into pieces when they strike any hard object, and cause as much damage as if they had the charge of powder inside the shell.

The following is a copy of the autograph letter which was sent by the Queen to Sir Edmund Lyons, on the death of his son:—" Buckingham Palace, June 29, 1855. The Queen cannot let any one but herself express to Sir Edmund Lyons the Prince's and her feelings of deep and heartfelt sympathy on the most melancholy occasion of the loss of his beloved and gallant son, Captain Lyons. We grieve deeply to think of the heavy affliction into which Sir E. Lyons is plunged at this anxious moment, and we mourn over the loss of an officer who proved himself so worthy of his father, and was so bright an ornament to the service he belonged to. To lose him, just when he returned triumphant, having accomplished so admirably all that was desired and wished, must be an additional pang to his father. If sympathy can afford consolation, he possesses that of the whole nation."

The 51st Regiment, which has for some time been stationed in Manchester, embarked on Tuesday at Liverpool, on board the steam-transports *Emu* and *Andes*, for Malta. The following officers accompanied the troops:—Lieut.-Colonel Errington, Major Erskine; Captains Irby, Dixon, Madden, Drought, and Mitford; Lieuts. Anderson, Acton, Willis, Farrington, Reed, Woolley, and Chaplin; Ensigns Barnaby, Lewin, Scott, Oldham, Gloug, and Lambert; Ensign and Adjutant Clement; Paymaster Powell; Quartermaster Laurence; Surgeon H. M. Webb, and Assistant-Surgeon Burke. There are 44 sergeants, 50 corporals, 17 buglers, and 760 privates; making a total, including officers, of 866. The depot to be left behind consists of 23 sergeants, 21 corporals, 7 buglers, and 398 privates; making a total of 449. Upwards of 400 men, comprising detachments from the 31st and 48th Regiments, and the 3rd Buffs, also embarked at the same time on board the respective vessels.

It is said that orders have been received at the Laboratory Department of the Arsenal to get ready for immediate service 200,000 shells of different calibre in ten days.

BETWEEN thirty and forty gunners and drivers of the Royal Artillery were discharged on Tuesday morning as being unfit for further service in the Army. Some of them had lost a leg each, others an arm each, and a few were incapacitated from disease. About twelve of the Royal Sappers and Miners were discharged at the same time.

A BOMARSUND ANECDOTE.—At Bomarsund, when the citadel was destroyed, the order was given for re-embarking. The means of transport were insufficient, and a body of from 3000 to 4000 men could find no room. General Baraguay d'Hilliers appealed to Admiral Napier to obtain means of transport, and experienced a like refusal in like terms. The situation was grave, and the General demanded an interview with the Admiral, who came on shore. An English Vice-Admiral and General Niel were present at the interview. General Baraguay d'Hilliers represented with great energy the position of the troops, and the urgent necessity for transports. Admiral Napier, appealing to the established rules, refused with regret; when the Vice-Admiral (whose name I do not recollect, rose, and in a most respectful yet dignified manner, said, "Admiral, the French General is in the right; and the honour of England will suffer if you refuse his request. After some conversation the Admiral desired that the demand should be put in writing, and that he would then reply. The next morning the transports were at the disposition of the General.—*Baron de Banzancourt.*

FRENCH MILITARY PRISONERS PARDONED.—On the occasion of the late of the Emperor numerous pardons have been granted. Out of 878 soldiers detained in the different penitentiaries and prisons, and undergoing the punishment of the *louet* and hard labour, 577 have received full pardons, and 301 a reduction of their terms of punishment; 173 prisoners who have belonged to the army, and have been undergoing the punishment of hard labour, solitary confinement, or iron, have also been pardoned, or had their punishment reduced; 37 individuals, condemned by courts-martial for insurrectionary acts, have had a whole or part of their sentences remitted. In the whole 1088 men condemned by the army tribunals have experienced the clemency of his Majesty.

THE BALLOON EXPERIMENT.—I mentioned a few days ago that experiments were making at Vincennes with a view to destroy the shipping and powder-magazines, &c., in Sebastopol, by means of projectiles and carcasses, to be dropped from a balloon; and also that, owing to the boisterous state of the weather, it had been as yet found impossible fairly to test the merits of the invention. Since then three more attempts have been made to carry the experiments to an issue, but fortune did not smile upon the subsequent essays any more than on the first. The balloon was filled each time at the gas-works near the Barrière du Trône, and had to be taken down to the Plaine de St. Maur, about three miles off, but never succeeded in reaching it—the wind, the trees, and on another occasion a gate through which it had to pass, tearing it to ribbons. The inventor is, however, determined to go on; and the Emperor, determined to give him a fair trial, has ordered that pure hydrogen should be made on the field, to obviate the accidents which have taken place, so that a decisive result one way or another may be shortly expected. I was mistaken the other day in stating the inventor to be an officer of Marine Artillery; he is only a non-commissioned officer in that corps—Sergeant Boudoune; and the plan, whether feasible or not, does great credit to his ingenuity. The balloon, which is to be thrown up when the wind blows from the Camp to the town, takes up several carcasses and 13-inch shells, which are to be fired and dropped by means of electricity. The plan is, as I have said, extremely ingenious; but is so complicated that among military men its success is much doubted. The Emperor will be present when the experiment takes place.—*Letter from Paris.*

Travellers in the United States say that the crops of wheat and corn in Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio, surpass in luxuriance the most extravagant anticipations of a bountiful season.

SECRET DIPLOMACY.—STATE REFORM.

SINCE the nation was allowed to drift into war Secret Diplomacy has been very generally denounced by the people; and a few weeks ago, on the question of the Turkish Loan, it was almost fatal to the Government. Acting in the usual manner of carrying on negotiations exclusively by the prerogative of the Crown, and concealing them from the people, they went to Parliament to obtain its necessary assent to the convention to guarantee a loan to Turkey. They were almost defeated. They might, in like manner, have concluded a dishonourable peace with Russia—from which they were actually not far distant when Lord John Russell was at Vienna; or even a convention to guarantee a loan to Austria to enable her to occupy the Principalities—as unpatriotic Ministers have before now bestowed the national money on both Russia and Austria, and then it would have been imperative on the people to dismiss them. But the convention was unobjectionable. By the mere force of our national credit we may enable Turkey to bring her great army into the field more readily for the advantage of the alliance, and, if the war be successful, may never have a single farthing to pay. But the more advantageous the convention, the stronger the objection to the secret mode of negotiating it, which endangered its completion, and endangered the existence of the Ministry and the alliance between France and England. We cannot make the importance of the question and the extent of danger incurred plainer than by transcribing a few words from the *Times* of the 21st ult.:

The sentinels (said our contemporary) who first saw the Russian great-coats looming through the thick fog of the 5th of November, as their columns crowned the heights of Inkerman, were not more completely taken by surprise than were her Majesty's Ministers last night, when they found that a measure, which they had a right to look upon almost as a matter of course, was menaced with a violent and preconcerted opposition. We are astonished at the magnitude of the danger, and the narrowness of the escape, and can scarcely believe that within so short a time the alliance with France, the prospects of the war, and the very existence of Turkey, should have been saved from the most serious risk by the narrow majority of 135 to 132. We must express our unfeigned astonishment that the convention with France was to be annulled, the guarantee refused, and the Emperor of the French lowered in the eyes of his legislature and his subjects, by having been made to propose to them the performance of a treaty which the Parliament of his ally subsequently refused to ratify. The real question was whether it should go forth to France and to the world that this country, with all its pretence to good government had really no executive at all, so far as foreign affairs were concerned; whether we should proclaim to Europe that we are a people with whom no terms should be made, because by us at least none would be kept. There was great danger it would be said that popular government was as impotent in diplomacy as in war, and there was danger that the Emperor of the French, finding himself thus slighted and deceived, should withdraw from an alliance in which the loyalty was all on his side, and the levity and vacillation on ours.

This is a description of dangers incurred and risks run by Secret Diplomacy; for the people represented as faithless, and as keeping no terms, were never consulted about this negotiation; although their consent, signified by the House of Commons, was necessary to its completion. As long as such a consent is requisite to give validity to the acts of Ministers (and this is the very essence of the national freedom—the great point on which England differs from the Continental nations, where the Governments transact and complete all the national affairs without consulting the people, and only learn that they have done wrong when exasperation breaks out in a rebellion or a revolution), the Ministers are bound in common sense to consult the people before pledging the national faith. All the danger and all the risk might have been avoided by the Ministers coming down to the House of Commons a month or six weeks before they did, stating the utility of supporting Turkey by lending her our credit, and moving a resolution that such a course was expedient. Had they done so, they would have secured the assent of the House of Commons, and might have entered into the negotiation with a perfect conviction of being able to complete it. If the House, prepared for the motion of the Ministers, had refused its consent, the Ministers would not then have entered into the convention, and no person could have been affronted, and no alliance endangered. The war might have been less vigorously conducted—of which, however, there was no probability—but no other evil could have arisen. Why did not the Ministers take such plain course? The *Times* says they could not consult Parliament before the treaty was concluded. Why not? In the answer to this lies the kernel of the matter and the whole explanation of Secret Diplomacy.

"It is one of the Sovereign's prerogatives," say the legal writers, "to make treaties, leagues, and alliances with foreign States and Princes." This prerogative the Ministers, though placed in office by the Commons, and now more the servants of the nation than of the Crown, are particularly desirous to preserve, and accordingly they insist that the power of making all kinds of convention and treaties belongs exclusively to them. They refuse accordingly, as the rule, to give any information to Parliament concerning negotiations in progress; though they lay treaties before it when concluded, and especially when they require its help to give effect to them, and they admit that they are answerable not to the Crown but to Parliament and the nation, for all the effects of treaties when made. It very frequently happens, as in the case of the Turkish Convention, that a treaty cannot be perfected without the consent of Parliament. The Parliament, or the nation, acting by the Parliament, accused of not keeping faith, is clearly the overruling power, and ought to be consulted before its faith is pledged. The thing proposed cannot be done without its consent. Prerogative is subordinate to Parliament, and therefore it is reasonable that Prerogative should ask the opinion of Parliament, and be assured of its assent, before it puts itself in motion, and be certain before it concludes treaties. To make the Sovereign, however, or to make the Ministers—who, as the servants of the Commons, usurp and wield the Sovereign power—submit to the nation, is considered by them derogatory; and whenever it happens, as in the present case, that a large portion of the Court is opposed to a special act of prerogative, the Ministers, by such representations as those we have copied from the *Times*, by talking big of the prerogative, and threatening to resign, generally contrive to intimidate Parliament into assenting to any treaty which they have concluded. Parliament, can only turn out the Ministers, and repudiate their acts, and thus, while it retains a share of power, it is in reality deprived of all vote and voice in our foreign relations. So far as they are concerned, it is reduced to a mere debating club, with no more real power than the mock Parliament at the Garrick's Head. This is the Secret Diplomacy which is full of mischief. It may pledge the nation to an inglorious peace or involve it in an unjust war, and the nation will remain in total ignorance on the subject till the evil is consummated. All it can then do will be to dismiss the unworthy Minister, or have one of those revolutions in our party Government which are, on a small scale, disastrous like the great revolutions which, in Continental States, bring home retribution to Sovereigns. In reality, then, we must embroil ourselves in the additional trouble of breaking up the Administration without the power of correcting its errors at a time when rigorous and consistent government is more than usually essential to the public welfare.

All these evils might be avoided by a proper discretion in exercising the Royal prerogative. No person, we presume, wishes to interfere with the right of the Executive to consider what negotiations are proper, to initiate them and to conduct them; but before imposing on the nation any new and onerous obligations they ought to consult it. We are all now thoroughly convinced that had the negotiations with St. Petersburg been submitted to the public in 1852-53, when they were going on, the present war would have been avoided. Nicholas would then have learned the national feelings and the national determination, while he really saw and heard only Ministerial courtesies and Ministerial complicity; and he would have avoided a course, which he would have been made sensible would lead him into war. But Ministers, like other people, hate control. We have

all wonderful confidence in ourselves, and an equal mistrust of others; and Ministers, like the rest of us, conclude that nothing can be well done but what they do. They cherish, therefore, with great pertinacity the old prerogatives. Gradually many of these have been laid aside, or been exercised with discretion, according to circumstances or pressure of public opinion. Till now, the prerogative of making treaties has not excited much attention, and Ministers have exercised it with a high hand, producing in our foreign relations much evil. As the people increase in knowledge and the Parliament increases in power, old routine practices founded on circumstances long passed away should be departed from. It is an important part of the duty of Ministers chosen from the Commons to take notice of the changes in society, and gradually, for the sake of the Sovereign as well as the people, to adopt prerogative to existing facts. The House or Commons acting for the nation being now supreme, it would only be consistent with common sense for Ministers, before they conclude negotiations which cannot be done without dishonour, to act and obtain the approval of the nation. To get rid of what has become hateful under the name of Secret Diplomacy is now a necessary part of State reform. Though Ministers, in love with despotic power, and far more friendly to it in the hands of foreign sovereigns than to popular liberties, may and do plead that they will not be able, if under popular control, to negotiate with them, we beg distinctly and emphatically to inform them that their first duty is to the people of England. These must be served whether despots be pleased or not.

MINISTERIAL VIEWS ABOUT THE WAR.

KIDDERMINSTER.—Mr. Lowe, in his address to the electors, says:—"The real question which must be decided in this election is whether you are disposed to give your support to a vigorous war, carried on until we can obtain an honourable and lasting peace; or whether you will support some faltering and half-hearted compromise, which may, indeed, relieve us from the immediate pressure of the war, but at the cost of our honour and our security, and with the prospect of another contest, more arduous to carry on, and more difficult to terminate. The Government of Lord Palmerston is dissatisfied with the latter of these views, so, I believe, are the great majority of the nation. I owe it to your kindness to me, when I was yet a stranger to you, that I have been able to give my humble support to those principles in Parliament, and I trust to owe to your approval the honour of hereafter supporting them." Mr. Boycott (who opposed Mr. Lowe) rested his claims to support mainly on his being in favour of a more vigorous and energetic prosecution of the war. The nomination took place on Tuesday, when Mr. Lowe was returned without opposition, Mr. Boycott having retired. Mr. Lowe, in his address to the electors, said:—"If they were heartily in favour of prosecuting the war, and wished to impress upon the Government the necessity of carrying it out with vigour, it was their duty not needlessly to impede that Government. They should not give the Emperor of Russia and his allies the opportunity of saying that the tide was turning in England—that the people of England were ready enough to go to war, but that when they found out what it was, their boasted courage deserted them—they were anxious for a craven peace, and banished from the councils of her Majesty those men who urged them to stick to their colours and to fight to the last."

HERTFORD.—Mr. W. Cowper, whose return to Parliament was not opposed, says, in his address to the electors:—"The magnitude of the expeditions which England has been obliged to undertake for the purpose of restraining the aggressive designs of Russia against the freedom and civilisation of Europe, and the distance from the sources of supply at which our army has to operate, threw upon the military departments a burden which, at first, they were unable to sustain; but new departments have now been organised, and old ones remodelled, and the army is fully supplied with everything needful, and is preserved from many of the hardships the enemy has still to endure."

I shall be happy to give in person any explanations of my political views that may be desired; but I believe that, at the present moment, you are less inclined to enter into those general topics than to demonstrate to the nation at large the desire to give such support and encouragement to the Government of Lord Palmerston as may enable him to give full effect to his declared resolution of prosecuting the war with the utmost vigour and energy, as the surest way of attaining an honourable and lasting peace." Mr. Cowper, who was returned without opposition on Tuesday, addressed the electors at some length. In the conclusion of his speech he said:—"He felt assured that our best policy was to be honest and courageous, and not to listen to the counsels of fear, for this country would bear its burden willingly, in order to attain to a long and honourable peace, as our forefathers bore the burdens when they were engaged in a contest more arduous with the Emperor of that day, who threatened to invade the liberties of Europe (Hear, hear). We owed it to those brave men who had lost their lives in the Crimea not to relax in our efforts; and he felt certain that the people of England never would wax faint, but would prosecute the war with the utmost vigour, until they had secured the honourable peace on which they had set their hearts, and for which they had made such great sacrifices."

KILMARNOCK.—Mr. Bouverie, addressing his late constituents, refers to the Cobden-Gladstone proposal to obtain peace by yielding to the enemy's demand, and adds:—"Another way is by perseverance in a vigorous prosecution of the war; by a determination to spare no effort and sacrifice to reduce the pretensions and to baffle the designs of our foe; by a resolution to win those fair terms of pacification from his consciousness of defeat, which it is idle to expect from his justice or his moderation. Such I believe to be the right road to a restoration of peace."

THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL FOR INDIA.—The precise period of Lord Canning's departure is as yet undetermined. Much necessarily depends upon the movements and wishes of Lord Dalhousie. It is supposed, however, that the latter will not be formally relieved until the commencement of February. As the new Governor-General contemplates a visit to Madras, and a brief residence there, in order that he may take counsel with Lord Harris; and, as it is, we believe, his intention to spend a week or two in consultation with Lord Dalhousie before he enters upon his official duties, it would seem that the end of October or the beginning of November, as we previously stated, is the most probable period of Lord Canning's departure. No successor to his Lordship has yet been appointed at the Post-office, nor has Lady Canning been relieved a Court.

PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.—We understand that a letter has been addressed to the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, by the Board of Trade, calling the attention of those which are established in the various seats of British industry to the machinery for producing manufactures, and to the manufactures themselves, which are exhibited in the Paris Exhibition by France and other European countries, and of those Chambers which are situated in our great seaport towns, to the various kinds of imports, and especially those from the Colonies of the United Kingdom. At the same time a suggestion is made that it would be advisable if the Chambers were to depute some of their members possessing technical knowledge on the subject to visit the Paris Exhibition for the purpose of furnishing a detailed report of the result of their observations. It is believed that the progress of manufacturing production shown on this occasion, and its probable competitive influence on the markets of the world, will be found to be well worthy the serious consideration of the producers of the United Kingdom; and, should the suggestion be carried out with proper spirit, the Board of Trade expresses an opinion that a series of reports on the industrial position and recent progress of Europe would be obtained far more practical and useful than any reports which the Board could hope to obtain itself through its own agency.

POST-OFFICE REVENUE.—A return recently issued shows that the gross revenue of the Post-office for the financial year 1854-5, including the income derived from foreign and colonial postage, was £2,639,916 9s. 10½d.; the postage on letters returned, including £28,411 13s. 1d. charged on the East India Company, but written off by Treasury minute, was £54,579 18s. 4d.; the cost of management was £1,479,576 6s. 1½d.; charges other than management, £26,708 18s. 9d.; giving a net revenue of £1,129,051 5s. 10d. for the year. The total payments for the conveyance of mails by railway within the year amounted to £255,820 19s. 2d.; and for conveyance in previous years, £127,597 19s. 9d. The cost of the money order department for England and Wales was £61,317, and the amount of commission received £77,694; Ireland cost £8825, commission £7654; Scotland cost £6665, commission £7520; showing a total expenditure of £76,807, as against £92,868 receipts. The amount paid by the public departments of Great Britain for postage was £141,275 12s. 6d., while for Ireland the amount was £13,867 14s. 1½d., giving a total for the United Kingdom of £155,143 7s. 5d.

PROGRESS OF NEW YORK.—The census of the city of New York, recently taken, shows the population of the island to amount to about 750,000. Five years ago it was 517,000. The foreign immigration will do much to account for this increase, great as it is; 250,000 or 300,000 foreigners a-year have arrived at this port since 1850, and although the larger proportion have passed through on their way to the West, or to other cities, or even to California, many have rested here. Brooklyn, on the opposite bank of the East River, numbers about 200,000, and Jersey city and Hoboken, on the North River, will carry up the town population of New York, without taking in the surrounding villas, to over a million. Enormously great as the increase has been since the discovery of California, there is every reason to think that the additions are as great now as ever. The gradual restoration of confidence in business, the promise of a superabundant crop, and the continued arrivals of emigrants from Europe at this point, as well as the concentration here of ocean steam navigation with Europe, California, and the coast of the United States, are causes as actively at work now as at any moment for the last six years.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL VICO.

The following eulogium on this brave French officer, who died on the 10th of July, is from a despatch of General Simpson to Lord Panmure, dated July 14:—

My Lord,—I announced to your Lordship by telegraph, on the 11th, the



THE LATE LIEUT.-COLONEL VICO.

death of Lieut.-Colonel Vico, of the French army, which melancholy event took place on the afternoon of the 10th inst.

It is impossible for me to find words to express my regret at this sad visitation.

Lieutenant-Colonel Vico joined the English Army as joint Commissioner the latter end of May, 1854, and had, up to the time of his death, never been absent from his duty for a single day. At Varna, where the cholera raged, and carried off hundreds—at the landing of the Allied armies at Old Fort—at the Bulganc, where his colleague, Lieutenant-Colonel de Lagondie, was taken prisoner, and from which time he had the sole charge of the communications between the French and English head-quarters—at the glorious battle of Alma—at that of Balaclava—at the stern and bloody fight of Inkerman—in fact, at every place, and on every occasion, where he thought his services could be of use, was Lieutenant-Colonel Vico to be found.

I know that the late Field Marshal Lord Raglan held him in the highest estimation, and placed the most implicit confidence in him; and although my acquaintance had, comparatively speaking, been but a short one, it had been long enough for me to appreciate the many excellent qualities with which he was endowed.

A pious Christian, a brave and gallant soldier, a single-hearted, upright



FOUNTAIN OF THE SULTAN VALIDE, AT SCUTARI.

man, a kind and generous one, who thought no personal sacrifice too great for the public good, he has gone from us, beloved and regretted by every Englishman who had the advantage of knowing him and enjoying his friendship.

I have, &c.,

JAMES SIMPSON,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

FOUNTAIN OF THE SULTAN VALIDE, AT SCUTARI.

THIS is a fine specimen of the Fountains of Constantinople and its suburbs, and partakes in general character of the usual form of these quadrangular water-castles. Here we have the large broad-eaved roof; the sides richly gilt and decorated, and bearing inscriptions celebrating the praise of water; for water is to the Eastern the symbol of the principle of life; and the words of the Koran, "By water everything lives," are almost universally inscribed on the great fountains.

LADY REDCLIFFE VISITING THE WOUNDED AT SCUTARI.

THE City of the Sultan presents many vivid scenes for the pencil of the artist; but few can compare in interest with the present incident of Lady Redcliffe, the wife of the British Ambassador, on her way to visit the

wounded in the Hospital at Scutari, which has been fitted up under the superintendence of the humane Miss Nightingale. The locality is the principal portion of Pera, showing the entrance to the Galata serai; which palace was destroyed by fire some years since. Here barracks and an hospital have been provided for our troops; and here, for the first time, English soldiers mounted guard in Constantinople—an extraordinary scene for the Turks, who then began to perceive that they were no longer masters at home. Lady Redcliffe is seated in her sedan chair, which is carried by two bearers in Greek dresses, embroidered in blue; they wear small skull-caps with long tassels, mou-tachios, and no beard. The chair is preceded by a gendarme—a portly man, wearing a tunic richly embroidered with gold, and a pair of pistols in pockets similarly decorated; he holds a sabre in his left, and a cane in his right hand. An English footman follows the chair. In the right corner of the picture is the Police Guard-house.

ANTICIPATORY CHARACTER OF LORD J. RUSSELL.—He gives hopes where he ought to create absolute despair. This is that hovering between two principles which ruins political strength by lowering political character, and creates a notion that his enemies need not fear such a man, and that his friends cannot trust him. No opinion could be more unjust as applied to Lord John; but such an opinion will grow if he begin to value himself more upon his dexterity and finesse than upon those finer, manly, historico-Russell qualities he most undoubtedly possesses.—*Sydney Smith.*



LADY REDCLIFFE VISITING THE WOUNDED IN THE HOSPITAL AT SCUTARI.



DONKEY RACES IN ALEXANDRIA.

SKETCHES IN ALEXANDRIA.

DURING a recent visit to Alexandria our Artist availed himself of the opportunity to present to our readers a pair of Sketches of the street life of that interesting city. We give his own description of these characteristic scenes:—

"Just emerging from the great square of Alexandria, Captain Ponsonby and I entered the main street, preceded by a tall, athletic, and Mercury-like negro: he wears a long, sleeveless shirt, his only garment; and he flourishes a heavy stick above his head as a warning to passers by, and riders coming in opposite directions, that they had to clear the way before us. We are attended by a tribe of urchins, dressed in the same style as the negro, some black and others olive; and they flogged the poor diminutive donkeys with such unmerciful energy that I really wished for the interference of some member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

"A clever-looking and gracefully-shaped little fellow is riding before us,

serving as interpreter, and continually turning round to us, explaining everything he sees, whether we like it or not, in five or six languages in succession.

"Two Egyptians on donkeys are approaching with their feet nearly touching the ground. In the right foreground are two Egyptian ladies, very obese, wearing wide yellow trousers and boots. A black nurse is carrying a pretty white boy, in white dress, in arms; the boy is dressed in the extreme French fashion, contrasting strangely with the Eastern costume of the family.

"The houses in the streets are lofty, and have windows with blinds always shut against the wind and dust; the roofs are flat. A group of Arabs is sitting in the middle of the square on the left, smoking. On the roofs of the houses are the flags of the different Consuls. Each house has a winding staircase with a small balcony.

"It should be added that the donkey in Egypt is a diminutive horse, with the exception of the ears and tail: it has no mare. These donkeys are comparatively high on their legs, which are admirably shaped. The

have all the appearance of a very slender racer-looking horse; but they are much smaller than the English donkey. There is a sort of high cushion in front of the saddle, on which the hand of the rider usually rests.

"The second Illustration is a night scene in Alexandria, where the carriage of one of the wealthier class is preceded by a pair of negroes bearing tall lighted torches, nearly as the footmen of old Lore lighted flambeaux in the streets of our metropolis."

PHOTOGRAPHY.—We understand that Mr. Ottewill, of Islington, the well-known photographic instrument maker, has invented a beautiful little addition to the camera. It is a dark portable chamber; this little box enables the photographer to change his plates at pleasure in the open air without the possibility of light getting into the instrument. This must prove a boon to photographers.



STREET IN ALEXANDRIA, BY NIGHT.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—SATURDAY, AUG. 16.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved that their Lordships should agree to the Commons' Amendments, but he could not do so without expressing his regret that many of the provisions of the bill had not been adopted by the Commons.

LORD CAMPBELL deplored that the bill had been mutilated in the other House, and though some service might be derived from it, that service would be trifling indeed when compared to what would have resulted from it, if it had passed in its original shape.

LORD LYTTELTON expressed a hope that early next Session the Government would endeavour to carry through Parliament the provisions that had been rejected in the other House.

After a few words from EARL GRANVILLE, the Commons' Amendments were agreed to.

The Commons' Amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill were considered and agreed to.

The Public Houses (Ireland) Bill, the Public Health Act Continuance and Amendment Bill, and the Diseases Prevention Bill, were read a third time and passed.

LIMITED LIABILITY.

On the motion for the third reading of the Limited Liability Bill, LORD LYTTELTON renewed his protest against persisting with so important a measure without affording time for the due consideration of its details.

The Marquis of LANDOWNE defended the course which the Government had pursued in pressing forward the measure this Session, and briefly expressed his approval of the principles it involved.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed, after a clause had been added empowering the Board of Trade to appoint auditors, under certain regulations, for the purpose of inspecting the accounts of the companies who might avail themselves of the privileges created by the measure.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—SATURDAY.

STATE OF THE CRIMEAN ARMY.

In reply to Lord Hotham,

LORD PALMERSTON promised to produce the report and evidence taken by Sir J. M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch respecting their recent inquiries into the state of the Crimean Army, with the exception of certain passages of a confidential character.

The Lords' amendments in several bills were considered and agreed to.

LIMITED LIABILITY BILL.

The Limited Liability Bill, which had just passed its final stage in the Upper House, having been brought down, the successive changes effected in that measure by the Peers were read from the Chair, and elicited much criticism. Mr. Williams, Mr. J. G. Phillimore, Mr. Malins, and other supporters of the original bill, complained of the narrow spirit in which it had been treated "elsewhere," and of the restrictive tendency of the amendments that had been introduced.

LORD PALMERSTON and the Attorney-General admitted the injurious nature of many of the changes thus effected, but recommended the House to accept the bill as it stood rather than risk it altogether by rejecting the Lords' amendments. In that case the Premier urged the whole ground would have to be gone over again next Session; whereas by taking the measure as it was the principle would be definitively adopted, and a better bill might easily be introduced hereafter on the foundation now laid.

This course was ultimately pursued, all the amendments being agreed to, and the bill passed without further modification as sent down from the Peers.

The House, at four o'clock, adjourned until half-past one on Tuesday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

LORD ST. LEONARDS moved for a return of the number of appeals heard and disposed of by their Lordships during the last five years, distinguishing those from England, Scotland, and Ireland, with the decisions in each case. He could not omit alluding to an attack which was reported to have been recently made in another place upon the appellate jurisdiction of that House, by her Majesty's Solicitor-General. The tone in which the judicial functions of their Lordships and the manner of discharging them were described was calculated to lower their jurisdiction as a court of appeal in the estimation of the public. If there was a period of the year more inconvenient than another for making such a charge, it was just when Parliament was about to be prorogued, and when no opportunity could occur to have the public mind set at rest and the matter rectified and put on its proper foundation. For himself, he could only say that he had always given the utmost attention and diligence to the consideration of appeals brought before their Lordships, and he felt satisfied that every Peer who took any part in disposing of them did the same.

LORD CAMPBELL had been unable to avoid feeling some degree of indignation at the attack said to have been made on their Lordships, which had a direct tendency to bring the jurisdiction of that House into disrepute. It was an attack upon the constituted authorities of the country, and upon a public functionary, for he (Lord Campbell) must say that it was an attack upon his noble and learned friend on the woolsack, who presided over their Lordships' decisions as Judges. It seemed to him, if the report were a just representation of what fell from the Solicitor-General, that he thought that justice would never be satisfactorily administered in their Lordships' House until he (the Solicitor-General) was presiding on the woolsack. Their judicial jurisdiction was of essential importance to their Lordships to enable them to preserve their weight, importance, and usefulness; and any attack which called upon the country to consider it unsatisfactory and mischievous must be an attack on the constitution of the country itself.

The LORD CHANCELLOR was sure he need not dwell on the necessity and importance of maintaining unimpaired the judicial functions of that House, which had been regarded in all ages as one of the best securities for the generally efficient and impartial administration of justice by the subordinate tribunals. He knew that in theory there might be great objection to the constitution of that tribunal, and that it might be canvassed in every way bearing on that opinion; but, supposing the attack which he had read only half an hour ago to be a correct representation of what his honourable and learned friend the Solicitor-General had said, he could hardly consider that speech an attack on himself so much as an attack on the judicial business of the House. He could not take the observations of his honourable and learned friend personally to himself; but neither could he, therefore, shrink from expressing his entire concurrence in what was stated, that this attack, attributed to the Solicitor-General, was altogether unfounded.

The Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill, Exchequer Bills (£7,000,000) Bill, and Militia Pay Bill, were read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The House of Lords met at half-past one o'clock.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

The Royal Commission, consisting of the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, the Earl of Harrowby, Earl Granville, and Lord Stanley of Alderley, took their seats at the foot of the throne, when the Royal Commission appointing them was read, in presence of the Speaker and about fifty members of the House of Commons, summoned thither by the Black Rod for the purpose.

The Royal assent to a number of bills having been given by commission, the Lord Chancellor read

THE ROYAL SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to express the warm acknowledgments of her Majesty for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties during a long and laborious Session.

Her Majesty has seen with great satisfaction that, while you have occupied yourselves in providing means for the vigorous prosecution of the war, you have given your attention to many measures of great public utility.

Her Majesty is convinced that you will share her satisfaction at finding that the progress of events has tended to cement more firmly that union which has so happily been established between her Government and that of her ally the Emperor of the French, and her Majesty trusts that an alliance founded on a sense of the general interests of Europe, and consolidated by good faith, will long survive the wants which have given rise to it, and will contribute to the permanent well-being and prosperity of the two great nations whom it has linked together in the bonds of honourable friendship.

The accession of the King of Sardinia to the Treaty between her Majesty, the Emperor of the French, and the Sultan, has given additional importance and strength to such alliance; and the efficient force which his Sardinian Majesty has sent to the seat of war to co-operate with the Allied armies will not fail to maintain the high reputation by which the army of Sardinia has ever been distinguished.

Her Majesty has commanded us to thank you for having enabled her to avail herself as far as has been required of those patriotic offers of extended service which she has received from the Militia of the United

Kingdom, and for the means of reinforcing her brave army in the Crimea by an enlistment of volunteers from abroad.

Her Majesty acknowledges with satisfaction the measures which you have adopted for giving effect to the Convention by which, in conjunction with her ally the Emperor of the French, she has made arrangements for assisting the Sultan to provide the means which are necessary to enable him to maintain the efficiency of the Turkish army, which has so gallantly withstood the assaults of its enemies.

Her Majesty, in giving her assent to the bill which you presented to her for the Local Management of the Metropolis, trusts that the arrangements provided by that measure will lead to many improvements conducive to the convenience and health of this great city.

The abolition of the duty on newspapers will tend to diffuse useful information among the poorer classes of her Majesty's subjects.

The principle of limited liability, which you have judiciously applied to joint-stock associations, will afford additional facilities for the employment of capital; and the improvements which you have made in the laws which regulate friendly societies will encourage habits of industry and thrift amongst the labouring classes of the community.

Her Majesty trusts that the measures to which she has given her assent for improving the constitutions of New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, and for bestowing on the important and flourishing colonies of Tasmania extended powers of self-government, will assist the development of their great natural resources, and will promote the contentment and happiness of their inhabitants. Her Majesty commands us to say, that she has been deeply gratified by the zeal for the success of her Majesty's arms, and by the sympathy for her soldiers and sailors manifested throughout her Indian and Colonial empire; and her Majesty acknowledges with great satisfaction the generous contributions which her subjects in India, and the legislatures and inhabitants of the Colonies, have sent for the relief of the sufferers by the casualties of war.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Her Majesty commands us to convey to you her cordial thanks for the readiness and zeal with which you have provided the necessary supplies for carrying on the war in which her Majesty is engaged.

Her Majesty laments the burthens and sacrifices which it has become necessary to impose upon her faithful people; but she acknowledges the wisdom with which you have alleviated the weight of those burthens by the mixed arrangements which you have made for providing those supplies.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Her Majesty has commanded us to say that she has seen with sincere regret that the endeavours which, in conjunction with her ally, the Emperor of the French, she made at the recent Conferences at Vienna to bring the war to a conclusion on conditions consistent with the honour of the Allies and with the future security of Europe, have proved ineffectual. But those endeavours having failed, no other course is left to her Majesty but to prosecute the war with all possible vigour; and her Majesty, relying upon the support of Parliament, upon the manly spirit and patriotism of her people, upon the never-failing courage of her Army and her Navy, whose patience under suffering and whose power of endurance her Majesty has witnessed with admiration, and upon the steadfast fidelity of her allies, and, above all, upon the justice of her cause, humbly puts her trust in the Almighty Disposer of events for such an issue of the great contest in which she is engaged as may secure to Europe the blessings of a firm and lasting peace.

On your return to your several counties you will have duties to perform little less important than those which belong to your attendance in Parliament.

Her Majesty trusts that your powerful influence will be exerted for the welfare and happiness of her people, the promotion of which is the object of her Majesty's constant care, and the anxious desire of her heart.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The House met at half-past one o'clock.

CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

SIR DE LACY EVANS wished to offer a few observations with the view of eliciting from the noble Lord such a statement as would be satisfactory to the country, that during the recess her Majesty's Government would prosecute the war with the utmost vigour (hear, hear). There might be some hon. gentlemen behind him who might think such a declaration superfluous, the noble Lord having frequently satisfactorily in that House declared his determination to prosecute the war to a successful end; but, then, he recollected other right hon. gentlemen when connected with the Government had done the same thing, and yet had displayed considerable short-comings in acting up to their professions (hear, hear). He had another reason. He was old enough to recollect the last war, and upon contrasting the exertions of the Government of that day in prosecuting the war to a triumphant issue with the exertions of the present Government, he could not help saying he saw a great deficiency. There ought, however, to be no such deficiency. In the late war we had 80,000 British troops, besides 40,000 Portuguese troops, subsidised, paid, and clad out of British resources. In addition to this, we gave great assistance to Spain by enabling her to keep up an army of 150,000 men. We had also a war to conduct on the frontiers of Canada. We had a large force in the Mediterranean, besides 100,000 British troops and 40,000 Portuguese in the field. He would venture to say that, as respected the number of troops in the Crimea, there was a great falling off. It was not necessary to state the number of troops there, but they bore but a small proportion to the number of troops he had named as having been in the field during the late war. At that period the population of the country was not above one-half of the present population, and the financial resources were not one-sixth. Nor was the patriotic feeling of that day one whit more enthusiastic for the war than now. It was the bounden duty, therefore, of her Majesty's Government to carry out fully and to realise the expectations of the people with regard to the prosecution of the war. After pointing out what ought to be done with a view to strengthen the Army, he said he was glad to hear that 3000 out of the 20,000 Foreign Legion were in an effective state of discipline, and he hoped to see them soon expedited to the seat of war. With regard to foreign troops, we had 50,000, or rather 52,000, in our pay in the last war—but we were very far from that number at present. He was glad to hear so good an account of the Turkish Contingent. It was satisfactory as to numbers at least. He was sorry to hear they were not yet armed with the Minié rifle, and that only a few days ago a small body had been armed with the minié. The Turkish Contingent ought all to be armed with the minié, and the greatest exertions ought to be made in Birmingham and elsewhere to furnish a sufficient supply of that arm. Indeed it would be a wise and economical measure if Government determined upon supplying the whole of the Turkish army with the Minié rifle (hear, hear). He would remind the noble Lord that these contingents had not the same morale as the regular army, and required more attention. He hoped Government would take into consideration the advantage of enlisting some of the Irish constabulary, the finest corps of men in Europe. They might raise from them a brigade of Irish Guards, not certainly with the same privileges as our Guards, but with certain inducements to enlist, with a prospect after the war ceased of returning to their former condition. He was glad to see there was to be an Italian Legion. Something had lately been said about a Polish Legion. Now, in the last war we had a Swiss Legion and a German Legion, and he could not understand the extreme delicacy which some persons showed against having a Polish Legion. All Poland did not belong to Austria. We might have a Russo-Polish Legion, and if the Poles wished to raise the standard of liberty, let them do so. But at the same time let it be understood that no subject of the Galician provinces would be received into the Legion. Let them get their recruits from the Russo-Polish provinces. He could see no objection to such an arrangement. He regretted, on account of certain speeches that had been made, that a division had not taken place on the last motion, because that division would have shown to the world how excessively small the minority was of those who agreed in the views of the speakers (hear). It was said by the noble Lord (Russell) that this war would cost us £300,000,000. He (Sir De Lacy Evans) said, if the war was not prosecuted now, under the favourable circumstances of an alliance with our gallant neighbour, it would cost the next generation £500,000,000, and with less probability of complete success.

VISCOUNT PALMERSTON: No one is more entitled than my hon. and gallant friend to express an opinion upon the war and the manner in which it is carried on, for his high military reputation, his distinguished services, and his great experience give great weight to anything he says; and I beg to say that I fully concur in his suggestions, which I think well deserving of consideration, and many of which are already under the consideration of her Majesty's Government. The hon. and gallant gentleman began by stating that he hoped he should hear a declaration from her Majesty's Government as to their determination to prosecute the war vigorously. Sir, I and my colleagues have already said what are our intentions on that subject, and when my honourable and gallant friend shall have heard the words which will shortly come from the Royal commission, he will find, coming from that high authority, that they are entirely in accordance with what has already fallen from us in this House. It is quite true, as my hon. and

gallant friend states, that, if we compare the amount of men in the army now and at the latter period of the Peninsular War, we shall see the deficiency is greater now than at that time. But if you will look a little higher up to the earlier years of the war, you will find that greater efforts are now made than those which were made at the commencement of the late war. It is always a matter of great difficulty, from a state of peace establishment to start suddenly to such an augmentation of force as hostilities require. But at no period of the history of this country has so large an acquisition of force taken place, or been sent to such a distant quarter to carry on the operations of war in so short a period. The number of men enlisted is double the number of those enlisted in the same time during the last war. It is true that since then the population is much greater, but it must also be recollected, that it is equally true that the inducements to industry and the recompense of labour are much greater now than they were before, and the Army has had to compete in the labour market for recruits under disadvantages which did not exist to the same extent before. The spirit of the people of this country was never more patriotic than now, and the high spirit of the people was never displayed in a more marked manner than it had been by those who had entered the ranks of the Army since the war began. It is true that many of those who have lately enlisted have been younger than could be desired. But it is difficult to adopt the suggestion of my honourable and gallant friend in order to supply the Army with seasoned troops, as the engagements he referred to are voluntary. There is great force in what he suggested with regard to the Indian army, and it is possible that a portion of the native troops might be made available for service in the Crimea. (Here an intimation was made to the Noble Lord that the Black Rod was approaching.) I will only say that the suggestions of my honourable and gallant friend, and the remarks he has made with reference to the Army, shall receive every consideration from her Majesty's Government.

Messages from the Lords were read, agreeing to several bills. The Black Rod having been loudly announced, business was suspended. The Commons were summoned to the House of Lords; and the Speaker, attended by hon. members, proceeded to the Upper House. On return, the Royal Speech was read, and the House separated.

THE SUTHERLAND FAMILY.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

SIR,—The interesting account of the Sutherland Family contained in your Paper of July 23 assumes as undoubted that Hugo Freskyn, who flourished about 1130, and from whom the present Duke of Sutherland is lineally descended, was a Flemish chief, who had founded the family of De Moraira. This idea was given out by Fordun, who is followed by Chalmers; but without any better reason than that Hugo Freskyn is known to have received a grant of extensive estates in Moray from King David I., whose policy it was to establish foreigners as his chief vassals throughout the country. The weight of probabilities, however, leans to the supposition that Hugo Freskyn was not a Fleming, but of native Celtic origin, and a successor by descent of the ancient "Maormors" (or Princes) of Moray. Mr. Skene, in the "Iona Miscellany," gives us from MS. genealogies, a family of old Maormors of Moray, who, it may be held as certain, were the first who can be traced as possessors of that province, viz.:—

Rory	
Maolbride	Finlay
Gilconigan	Macbeth
Lulach	
Malsnectai,	Nighin Lulath
who died in 1085 (son of Lulach).	(daughter of Lulach), who married Heth, or Heth, and died about 1125.
	Angus,
	her son (Mac Nighin Lulath, who died about 1130.

It thus appears that on Malsnectai's death the succession devolved on his sister and her husband Heth, who were again succeeded by their son Angus, to the prejudice of Malsnectai's children. Hugo Freskyn de Moraira was the immediate successor of Angus in the lands of Moray. And the question comes to be, whether he so succeeded in right of relationship, or as merely the grantee of the Crown? The word Freskyn cannot, it is believed, be traced to a Flemish or Norman root; whereas it can, without any violence, be deduced from the Celtic words *Fear-as-cinn* (which literally means "the chief over others"), corrupted by the Latin chroniclers into Freskyn. Another material fact is that the mere power of the Crown was then too weak to have enabled a foreigner to obtain and maintain possession of such a province as Moray. The probabilities are, therefore, rather that, on Angus's death, a competition for the succession arose among members of the old family, one of the competitors being Hugo Freskyn, aided by the countenance of the Crown; and the other being Wismund, an English monk, who asserted that he was Angus's son, but who is generally regarded as an imposter. What the exact relationship of Freskyn to Angus, or to Malsnectai, was, must probably always remain a point of conjecture. Mr. Skene supposes him to have been a brother of Angus; but there is a choice of probabilities, and I think it quite as likely (seeing he did not adopt Angus's patronymic of Macbeth, as was done by Wismund) that he was a son of Malsnectai, and a nephew of Angus. It was more the rule than the exception in those days for the uncle to usurp a minor nephew's rights; and as at Malsnectai's death, in 1085, his son would then be in minority, Lulach's daughter or her husband Heth, or Heth, may have become Maormor in that way; and Angus, their son, being of full age at their death, and having the advantage of possession, would naturally succeed to them, and retain the title till he was slain in rebellion in 1130, when his nephew Freskyn's rights would probably be recognised and supported both by Government and by the people in preference to the claims of Angus's doubtful son Wismund. This would explain Freskyn's possession of large territories at a time when foreigners were unable to make good their footing in Moray. This hypothesis has the advantage of deducing Freskyn's descent from the direct male line of the ancient Maormors.

The subject, though relating more particularly to a single family, is not without interest to many of your readers, both as an antiquarian topic, and as exhibiting a remarkable, if not unparalleled, instance of unbroken descent with undiminished power and station during nine centuries.

3rd August, 1855.

CATTACH.

* * We thank our Correspondent for his curious antiquarian details; and we take this opportunity of correcting an error of the press in the article to which he refers. The date 1725 was given instead of 1275.

THE FRENCH LOAN.—The official statement regarding the results of the applications for the new French Loan has at length been issued. The number of subscribers actually amounts to 316,864. The capital subscribed for is 3,652,591,985*fr.*—viz., subscriptions of 50*fr.* and under, which are not to be reduced, 241,020,155*fr.*; of 60*fr.* and upwards, subject to proportionate reduction, 3,420,671,830*fr.* The departments have furnished 236,577 subscribers for an amount of 1,118,703,585*fr.* The 2,533,888,499*fr.* subscribed in Paris included about 600 millions from abroad. The tenth part deposited in Paris and in the departments by way of guarantee forms a total of 365,528,195*fr.* The Minister of Finance, in order to prevent the unnecessary absorption of so large an amount of capital in excess of the ten per cent instalment required on the subscription, began to repay the subscribers in Paris on the day succeeding the closing of the applications, and upwards of £5,000,000 has been reimbursed to the subscribers, thus leaving about £6,500,000 to be still returned to the subscribers.

PATENTS.—Last week the report of the Commissioners of Patents was issued, from which it appears that the number of applications for provisional registration recorded within the year 1854, was 2764; the number of patents passed thereon was 1876; the number of specifications filed in pursuance thereof was 1828; and the number of applications lapsed or forfeited, the applicants having neglected to proceed for their patents within the six months of provisional protection, was 888. The balance-sheet of the commissioners shows an expenditure of £42,208*cs.* 2*d.* on account of printing and lithographic drawing, as compared to £10,831*10s.* 2*d.* in 1853. The expenditure for the current year is estimated at £30,000; of which sum it is calculated not more than £12,000 will be expended in printing the specifications, indexes, &c., of the year; leaving £18,000 to be expended in printing the specifications enrolled previous to the Act of 1852. The salaries paid in the year amounted to £3686; the fees to law officers, to £8649; the compensation, to £4537; and the current and incidental expenses, to £3342. The stamp-duties paid upon passing patents in the year amounted to £53,030. There was a surplus of £15,672 on the expenditure of the year.

EXTRAVAGANCE OF AMERICANS.—The people of the United States are not only "profuse" in their "expenditures," but extravagant to a degree amounting to prodigality. We sincerely believe that Americans, particularly in the city of New York, are the most extravagant people on the face of the earth. There are men—merchants in that city—who live in houses costing 100,000 dollars, and spend at the rate of 25,000 or 30,000 dollars per annum; and some of the wives of these merchants wear thousand-dollar shawls, and other things to match. The sound, wholesome, prudential, and economical proverbs of honest Ben Franklin are repudiated, and we have heard them designated as "scoundrel maxims."—*Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.*

ST. MARYLEBONE PAROCHIAL VESTRY.—The first monument in these pleasant grounds, situate at East Finchley, was erected on the 9th instant, being a rich Gothic tomb over the family vault of E. White, Esq., and executed by Mr. Physick, sculptor, Allsop-terrace.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—(No. II.)

In the year 1850 Mr. Henry Stothert, of Bath, submitted to the Commissioners of Sewers in London a plan for removing and deodorising the sewage of the metropolis, and applying it to the purposes of agricultural irrigation. He exhibited a large model of his plan at Mr. Russell's blacking manufactory, in the Strand, in which the whole of his mechanical and engineering process was clearly displayed, and public criticism was invited to pronounce on its merits or demerits. In the presence of five of the Metropolitan Commissioners he experimented on the sewer which drains New Richmond, in the direction of Morlake, at the point where it adjoins the gas-works. The Commissioners were satisfied with the results, for in each of the experiments "the solid matter precipitated stood about one-fifth the way up in the cylindrical glass vessel used on the occasion, the other four-fifths being clear water. A portion of the solid matter having been taken out of the vessel, was found to be free from odour." This fact, and others to a similar purport, being attested by Richard Jebb, Esq., Chairman, and that gentleman, with his colleagues, having promised to report favourably to the Committee, Mr. Stothert expected that further notice would have been taken of his plan; but, in common with many other ingenious men, he was doomed to disappointment. However, as public attention is now seriously fixed on the polluted state of the Thames, the occasion is favourable for a renewed inquiry into the advantages of Mr. Stothert's plan.

It is evident that any work adequate to carry off all the refuse of this huge and annually increasing metropolis must be of colossal proportions; but it would be a reflection on our engineering skill if we could not surmount all difficulties. In the infancy of Rome Tarquinius Priscus commenced, and Tarquinius Superbus completed, the Cloaca Maxima; and Livy, who wrote in the age of Augustus, describes it as an undertaking so vast that even the magnificence of the period in which he flourished could not equal it; while Pliny, who records its repair, expressly says that this *opus omnium maximum* continued as strong in its main foundations as when first built by Tarquin. Such an example of the energies of an infant State ought to awaken our national pride; nor should we forget that water was brought to Rome through aqueducts, from distances of thirty, forty, and sixty miles, in one continuous covered channel of stone, carried by arcades over the widest valleys, and by tunnels pierced through mountains. Pliny writes, "If we consider attentively the quantities of water brought into the city for the use of the public, for baths, for fishponds, for private houses, for artificial lakes, for gardens in the neighbourhood of the city, and for villas; if we look also at the works which have been constructed for forming a regular channel for the waters—arches raised up, mountains pierced with tunnels, and valleys filled up to a level—it must be acknowledged that there is nothing in the world more wonderful." Frontinus states that, under the Emperor Nerva, to whom he was architect, nine of the aqueducts emptied their waters into the city, through 13,594 pipes, each of an inch diameter; and during every twenty-four hours Rome received no less than 500,000 hogheads of water by means of the aqueducts. Such noble contrivances for promoting and preserving the public health are worthy of our imitation.

Mr. Stothert estimates that 150,000,000 gallons of sewage matter ought to be removed daily from London, which is equal to 500,000 tons. Five-sixths of this quantity is due to the north side of the Thames. The calculations, however, are made, in round numbers, on 500,000 tons daily; and, as the solid matter of the sewage is computed at only one-hundredth part of the total quantity to be removed, the solid matter is reduced to 5000 tons daily. To this, however, must be added a quantity of antiputrescent matter to render the sewage innocuous, and this may be roughly put down at 250 tons daily, or one-twentieth part of the solid refuse. Mr. Stothert then describes the machinery required to carry out his scheme on both sides of the Thames, and we shall give the statement in his own words:—

City Side of River.—Thirty-six head of water will deliver six times the quantity through a one-foot pipe that can be delivered through a similar pipe of one-foot head.

A pipe of three feet diameter with a thirty-six feet head, and say 800 yards long (for the length would not be more before you reach the second engine with enlarged pipe), would discharge 7308 tons per hour.

7308 tons of sewage, lifted thirty-six feet high by a Cornish engine, would not consume more than 1136 lb. of coal per hour.

298-horse power would be required to raise 7308 tons of water thirty-six feet per hour.

Velocity of water through the pipe, 10 feet 3½ inches per second.

Surrey Side of the River.—A twenty-four inch pipe with thirty-six feet head would discharge 2729 tons per hour.

2729 tons raised thirty-six feet high would consume 416 lb. of coal per hour.

111-horse power engine would be required to raise 2729 tons of water thirty-six feet high per hour.

Velocity of water flowing through pipe eight feet six inches per second.

It is proposed to have five engines fixed on the north or City side of the river, whose united discharge in the twenty-four hours would be 876,960 tons of sewage matter, or 196,439,040 gallons.

The coal required for working the five engines to raise and dispose of the above quantity would be 60 tons 15 cwt.

On the Surrey or south side of the river it is proposed to have three engines, whose united discharge in the twenty-four hours would be 196,474 tons, or 44,010,176 gallons.

The coal required for working the three engines for twenty-four hours would be 13 tons 7 cwt.

The total quantity in gallons discharged from the eight engines on the north and south sides of the river, constantly at work, would be 238,212,352.

The total quantity of coals consumed by all the engines constantly at work would be 74 tons 2 cwt.

The whole of the above sewage would be conveyed through a pipe of seven feet diameter in the largest part on the City side, and a pipe of three feet six inches in the largest part of the Surrey side.

Such, then, is Mr. Stothert's machinery and method of working. The next consideration is the cost of carrying the plan into practice. Of this he gives a very minute and detailed estimate, but it will answer the present purpose to classify the totals under separate heads. It must, however, be noticed that in each of them twenty per cent is added and included to cover unforeseen contingencies. The expenditure necessary for purchasing and fixing the machinery on the north side of the river, including the ground on which it will have to be erected, is put down at £423,400; on the south side, at £200,000; adding twenty per cent for contingencies, the total outlay in these departments amounts to £748,800. This is the cost for removing the sewage from London. The next item is the expenditure needed for mixing and distributing the sewage, which, for both sides of the river, is estimated at £1,528,440. The total fixed capital, therefore, for the whole plant represents £2,276,520. The estimated annual cost for working is valued at £107,095. If the capital—£2,276,520—were raised by loan at four per cent, the interest would be £91,060, which, added to the working expenses, would involve an annual outlay of £198,155. At this trifling cost the Thames would be restored to a state of purity, the air would no longer be polluted by its foul and poisonous exhalations, and the water used for domestic purposes would be sweet and wholesome. In the whole scope of State reform nothing could be more beneficial; for this, at least, is not a "class movement," but one that concerns the whole community.

We now proceed to show that the advance of capital proposed would not only be returned, but that, after its repayment, this sanitary operation would yield a large and permanent revenue, which might be appropriated to such other uses as Government might deem desirable. Mr. James Dean, land surveyor and civil engineer, who has had large experience in agricultural drainage, when examined before the Health of Towns Commission, expressed his conviction that, where grass land yields one mowing crop and feed, by the application of sewage to such land it would produce two, and in some seasons three, crops, and at least double the quantity of feeding. On being asked whether he could adduce any practical confirmation of his views, he referred to Ashburton, and other towns, especially in Devon-

shire. The system had been successfully adopted within his own recollection for forty years at Ashburton. The unimproved land in that locality near to a town, is usually worth from 30s. to 40s. an acre; when improved by sewage it becomes worth from £8 to £12 an acre.*

Mr. James Smith, of Deanston, stated to the Commissioners that land which he formerly let from 40s. to £6 per Scotch acre, is now annually let at from £30 to £40; and that poor sandy soil on the sea-shore, which might be worth half-a-crown per acre, now lets at an annual rent of from £15 to £20. The average value of the land he had examined, irrespective of the sewer-water application, might be taken at £3 per imperial acre, and the average rent of the irrigated land at £30; making a difference of £27; but £2 may be deducted as the cost of management, leaving £25 per acre of clear annual income due to the sewer-water. Mr. Smith then made the following general statement:—

I have ascertained that the quantity of sewer-water due to a town of 50,000 inhabitants amounts to about 1,190,000 gallons per annum, which quantity will yield an annual application of 17,920 gallons per acre to an extent of 66,410 acres. Taking the average cost of guano and farmyard manure at £2 per acre, and deducting 12s. 9d., the cost of the application of the sewer-water, there will appear a saving due to the sewer-water of £1 7s. 3d.; allowing one-half thereof to go to the farmer, there will remain a free income due to the sewer-water of £45,241, which is nearly £1 per head of the population.†

Mr. George Stephens, speaking of the irrigated meadows near Edinburgh, states that about fifty acres have been treated with sewer-water for about a century. Although the formation is irregular, as he observes, and the management was very imperfect at the time he wrote, he describes the effect of the water to be most astonishing:—

They produce crops of grass not to be equalled, being cut from four to six times every year, and given green to milk cows. The grass is let every year; by auction, in small patches, from a quarter of an acre and upwards, which generally yields from £24 to £30 per acre. This year (1836) part of the Earl of Moray's meadow gave as high as £57 per acre.‡

At Milan, the sewer-water has for a long period been applied to profitable use, and forms a most important branch of the agriculture of Lombardy. Some of the meadows, so treated, yield a net rent of £21 per tornatura (a measurement of 10,000 square metres, equal to about two acres and a half), besides a land-tax of 61 francs 10 cents, the expenses of administration, repairs of buildings, &c. These meadows are mown in November, January, March, and April, for stable feeding; in June, July, and August they yield three crops of hay for the winter; and in September they furnish an abundant pasture for the cattle till the beginning of the winter irrigation.

This evidence, and it might easily be multiplied, establishes the principle that towns may be purified actually without cost—the preliminary outlay being in truth one of the safest and most profitable of investments. If Government will not undertake the responsibility of the operation, it neglects its duty; if it refuse to confer due powers on a company, to enable them to perform what itself refuses to execute, then it becomes criminal. The purification of the metropolis on Mr. Stothert's plan, or on any other plan shown to be more eligible, affords a fine opportunity for testing the merits of limited liability, where a wise law would be used for a wise purpose. Mr. Stothert's calculations of outlay and annual expenses are based upon removing the sewage matter of a population of two millions, as well as extraneous sewage matter arising from other than the main sources; he has shown this to exceed two millions annually; and as an acre of land, properly irrigated, will absorb 100 tons of diluted sewage, London can provide for the fertilisation of two millions of acres. He calculates that the amount to be received per acre for distributing the material would be £4 per acre—an estimate founded on the experience of the Sewage Manure Company; but this we venture to think somewhat too high, as there is the competition of foreign guano to encounter. However, proceeding on this estimate, and taking only one million of acres to be irrigated, the aggregate annual receipts would be four millions sterling; deduct the cost of working and the annual interest, which has been stated the net profit on the undertaking would be £3,801,845 per annum, which would replace the original outlay in less than twelve months. Here we must pause till next week.

* First Report. Health of Towns Commission. Vol. II., p. 407.

† Second Report. Health of Towns Commission. Vol. II., p. 178.

‡ Essay on Irrigated Lands, by George Stephens, p. 72.

ASCENT OF MONT BLANC.—Mr. William Young, of Belfast, and Colonel Hardinge made the ascent of Mont Blanc on the 30th and 31st of July. A friend of the former gentleman, who writes an account of the ascent to the *Belfast Mercury*, says that the Grands Mulets are terribly "infested with fleas, so that when he attempted to get rest, he was fairly driven out of the place."

RESULTS OF THE FUSION.—The *Gazette Autrichienne*, under date of Vienna, August 4, says:—"The Duke de Montpensier yesterday evening paid a visit to the Count de Chambord (immediately on the arrival of the latter), which lasted an hour. The Count returned the call the next morning, and remained with his cousin fully as long a time. He left for Frohsdorf at half-past two the same afternoon."

COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.—The steam-packet that left Dover for Calais on Saturday night, at 11.30, came into collision with the brigantine *Henry*, of Yarmouth, bound from Shields to Rouen, deeply laden with coal, when the latter was sunk, and the master, Robert High; the mate, Charles Holmes; and a boy, F. Fulcher, sank with the vessel, not having been able to cast the boat, which they had got into, adrift from the ship. Two other men who were on board, named Hastings and Rudum, were picked up by the boat of the packet. It is said that the vessel was anchored directly in the fairway, about half a mile off Dover Harbour, and that she had no light up.

MILITARY ECONOMICS.—All the country around seems as if visited by a second spring. It is to be hoped it will also do something towards replenishing the springs of water, which have been nearly dried up by the continued heat. Much might have been done long before now towards alleviating this want, which there was a probability would be severely felt before the autumn. The French from the commencement instituted a corps of well-sinkers, paying a premium on the springs discovered, and it is to our allies that the whole of the right attack is at present indebted for the supply of water. We have begun now to turn our attention towards alleviating the hardships of the winter in prospect, and the quartermasters have been called on to furnish a list of the warm clothing necessary to complete the soldiers of their respective regiments, and under the present system there is little fear of the inconveniences and surmountable hardships recurring. As we shall most probably be in possession of the south side of Sebastopol before the snow falls we shall be able there to find sufficient shelter for the whole army, even should the Russians in their desperate flight destroy as much of the town as has escaped the destructive effects of our shot. Our army is sanguine of success, although we have remained outside so long that the streets of Sebastopol seem as far from us as the stars of heaven. By the formation of a Land Transport corps our soldiers will be spared from acting as "commissariat mules," and the wooden houses give them a good shelter, which an English campaigning tent never does. In these days of Army reform attention might be called to the state of British camp equipage—tents: camp-kettles, picks, shovels, and hatchets, remain the same as those issued to the army, under Abercrombie, in Egypt. Latterly the last-named article has been improved on by the introduction of a new patterned American hatchet, very portable and serviceable, but we require billhooks, more adapted for cutting brush-wood for firing than for chopping logs. We have tried some improvements in the old wooden water-barrels with copper hoops. Bottles made of indiarubber and gutta percha were issued for trial, the former, when emptied and dried, allowed the sides to collapse and stick together so fast that it was impossible to make use of them again; and the gutta-percha bottles, when exposed to a hot sun, became so soft that anything made a hole in them; besides this, they gave a disagreeable taste to the water contained in them. Before the heavy rains of winter come down the soldiers should be supplied with nipple covers for their rifles, and an improved style of stopper. For the former, something made of indiarubber, like the cover of an ink-bottle, would no doubt be found to answer, and this might be adapted for the muzzle also.—*Letter from the Camp, July 30.*

SCENES IN PARIS.—THE TUILERIES GARDENS.

THERE is a shady avenue in the gardens of the Tuileries stretching along the wall which marks the Rue de Rivoli from the Palace to the Place de la Concorde. The fine old trees afford a deep shadow, under which enterprising speculators have long kept convenient chairs to be let out to attentive mothers, noisy nurses, old gentlemen retired from business, and idlers who are in search of novelty or excitement. The custom they have enjoyed has fully justified the capital invested in deal and rushes. Any summer day, about two o'clock, the stranger, who may suddenly find himself in this avenue, will have before him ample materials for the study of Parisian babies

in every stage of their growth, from the red and waxen little fellows whose fists wander confusedly about their noses, and who have a most unpleasant way of expressing a desire for their natural refreshment, to the young soldier, brandishing a ten-sous sword in the face of a remonstrating nurse. The dresses, seen from a distance, are lively in the extreme, but the varying shades of colour are relieved by the snow-white caps of the nurses—here rising like sugar-loaves, in token of a Norman descent; there flying off the back of the head, according to the Parisian fashion. Under all these high caps appear Norman features, brown as the native pippin; under the low caps are faces of a town complexion. Certainly the country nurses have the advantage in point of beauty. They appear generally to be the best-humoured creatures in the world; and to persevere in fruitless efforts to calm the ferocity of their charges, even when these efforts are directed to the summary removal of the high cap or gay kerchief. Then there are the fond mothers, under the trees, watching their offspring at play, and reading the last volume of the *Librairie Nouvelle*, or working wonderful patterns to decorate the infantile petticoats intentionally dropped below the dress, that the maternal activity in the matter of embroidery may be patent to the section of the world that visits the Tuileries gardens. Interpersed amid the wide circles of mothers and nurses, chattering about their little *choux* and *cheris*, their *petits anges* and *cocottes*, are some very solemn old gentlemen who have retired from life,—a ribbon at their buttonhole, and some 5000 francs a year at their disposal, for the remainder of their days. Under these trees they rest during two or three hours daily while the fine weather lasts; chattering to one another about the latest news; offering one another snuff; lending their substantial walking-canes to frail children; now and then turning a skipping-rope; and often paying ever-welcome compliments to the mothers on the health and beauty of their offspring. The idle will remark the general tendency of these hundreds of boys, all fantastically dressed, to adopt the glitter, if not to court the dangers of the military profession. The parental indulgence, pandering to this weakness, is obvious in the large proportion of the boys dressed up with military hats, knapsacks, muskets, swords, and drums. To the young gentlemen who manifest a thirst for military renown at the early age of five, the drummer always represents the branch of the service to which he aspires. We accordingly see these little fellows marching to the sound of the drum in every direction. If here and there the stirring music is not audible, be certain that there are some young rascals near at hand, behind one of these trees, investigating the hidden anatomy of their instruments, an investigation that will be presently arrested by a vigorous sortie from two or three bronze guards in their high white caps.

The Paris doll may be here found also in great strength, and dressed, if inconspicuously sometimes, at all events gaily. Proud are the miniature mothers who carry their painted charges about; sold them only for the pleasure of forgiving the imaginary wrong-doing immediately afterwards; and undress them to dress them again in the presence of a select circle of jealous little women, who have either lost their own charges, or allowed some terrible accident to arrive to them through the wilfulness of their brothers. Women, seen through the wrong end of the telescope, are these little coquettes, met in solemn council to discuss the qualities of Pauline's doll, or the appointments of Liette's lately-purchased cradle. How they advise one another upon the disposition of a shawl, the fit of a dress, the work upon the edge of trousers! How they compare each other's bonnets, and, caring little to dissimulate for the present, give themselves severally the best of the comparison. Exquisitely ludicrous are their great quarrels! Mademoiselle Julie refused to turn the rope for Mademoiselle Augustine any longer; therefore, Julie dislikes Augustine's bonnet, and detests her boots. Each little Countess plays the great lady with her neighbour; and, when severely tried by the pretensions of her rival, threatens, in the majesty of her wrath, to tell her mother. Then these little ladies have their loves even now—boys with whom they have danced, or who have held their dolls for them while the bonnet was being tied on. These lovers are unceremonious as a rule, and exhibit a rapacious desire for any sweetmeats the betrothed may happen to possess—diminishing their attentions as the supply of *bombons* falls off or the last *plaisir* is broken.

Great is the commotion in this avenue when two or three girls arrive, clad in white, and bearing wreaths of flowers upon their heads! They are the girls who have been crowned at school for good conduct. Their coquetry is worth the study of Webster or any painter who can seize the delicate outlines of human emotion which give a charm to these little heroines. Not a joy lies in the cup from which they are destined to drink hereafter so unmixed, so exquisite, as that which glows upon their round cheeks, and glistens in their frank, bold eyes, to-day! They cling to the happy mother's side, and are glad in the fond words she has heaped upon them, in the presence of her lips upon their young foreheads. Yet, in the avenue, as they walk along, there are not wanting jealous little rivals, who toss their curls about contemptuously, and declare that these triumphs have not been fairly won by the crowned conquerors. Stories flit about—of answers secretly prompted, of unfair glances at books hidden under desks, of presents slyly given to the schoolmistress before the examination. All the scandal which in the affairs of grown men and women assuredly waits upon the heels of Success finds here its little mimics. But the battles of child-life have this advantage over those of adult combatants—that they are open-handed, for children have nothing to hide; no shame to tie their tongues when they are offended, or disappointed, or are jealous. The thought that is uppermost finds plain words. You may look through their bright eyes, as through the clear waters of mountain streams, and see all that lies at the bottom of them. Thus when autumn has cast his golden tints upon these noble trees, and every breath of wind brings down a shower of leaves, the little inhabitants of this child-world come tripping to their games with skipping-rope.

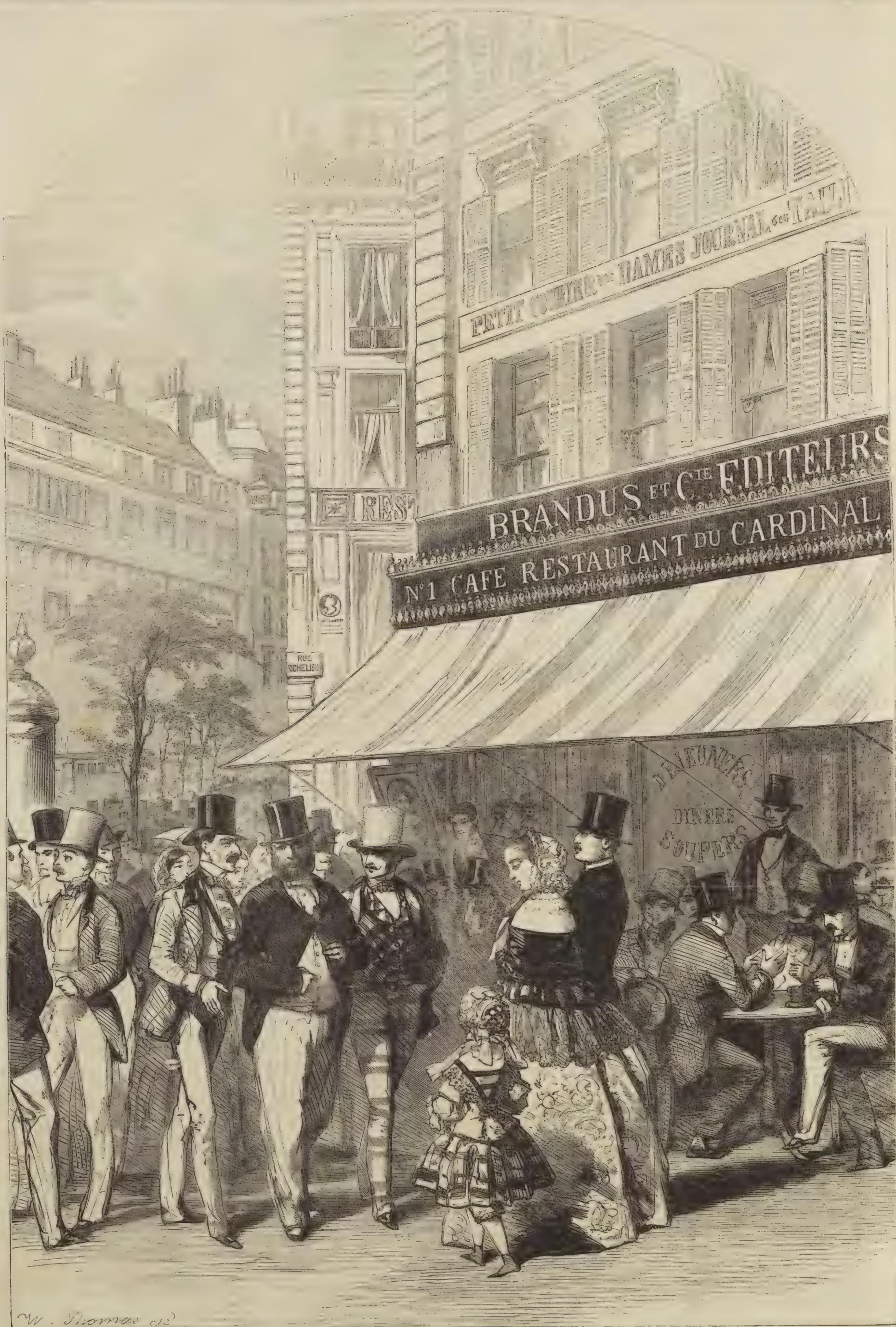
The skipping-rope is essentially a Parisian toy. I have watched children at play in the parks of London; I have seen them at liberty at Copenhagen; I have remarked them enjoying the bracing autumn air on the Alster Platz, at Hamburg; but in none of these places may be seen that really remarkable grace and agility displayed by Parisian children in the use of the skipping-rope. Last autumn crowds used to collect in the Tuileries gardens round a particular group of children, who appeared to have earned a reputation for their skipping. Of this little company one very little child—in size about four years old, but in manners five-and-twenty at the very least—appeared to be the acknowledged mistress. Her shrill little voice directed the turning of the rope; told her companions when to take their turn; and gave the word for "Vivez!" when she was performing her own remarkable scene in the game. I often stopped to notice the little queen. She was perfectly conscious of her popularity, as her small feet kept time to the turns of the rope; and as her companions counted the numbers during which she had "kept up." When at last she stopped, she retired with all the coquetry of a little tragically queen; and it was with an air of infinite condescension that she consented to take one end of the rope to turn for a friend. I could trace in the little creature's face a lurking spirit of malignant satisfaction whenever one of her rivals made a mistake. Sometimes there was a ring of fifty or sixty people about her, all anxious to see her begin. Had she been Grisi or Ristori she could not have been more conscious of her success. I am certain that she must have been a terrible child at home when a wet day kept her away from the gardens.

But the avenue in the Tuileries gardens is not the only spot which Paris babies have invaded. The sunny aspect of the Café de Paris, on the Boulevards; the inviting chairs placed against it; and, above all, the advantages the place offers to that considerable portion of the gentle sex which has an inclination "to see and be seen," have combined to attract the happy mothers of the French capital to this point. Accordingly the first time in the early part of every year, when the sun's rays afford perceptible warmth; when the café waiters first venture to put a few little tables on the pavement—even before the swallows have returned to the institute—ladies may be perceived, followed by *bonnes* bearing considerable bundles of clothes, somewhere in the depths of which gasps a baby, wending their timid way towards the baby-market. The cold soon drives them away, and it is probably only two months later that they return and fairly take up their summer positions. When, however, Tortoni's season has fairly set in, the fashionable world of Paris appears to disgorge its babies upon this point. The pavement is choked up with people looking on at this gigantic nursery; and at the various nursery duties which are here performed, as calmly as in the recesses of a home. The ladies work or read, pausing now and then to take another look at "bebi;" or to see that it is well shrouded from the sun.

A third region given up to children, and perhaps the prettiest of all, is the park or garden of the Luxembourg. Here little Legitimists learn to walk, and are possibly taught to love lilies and regard the bees only as so many marauders who have rifled their darling flowers. Here the offspring of professors and artists, of retired bourgeois, and the active tradesmen of the Rue de Seine, get the fresh air; swim their little boats in the basin of the great fountain, and watch the evolutions of the troops in the long avenue leading to the Observatory. These children differ in dress from the gay little world of the Tuileries gardens—being the descendants of less wealthy and less ostentatious parents. They have, however, many of the characteristics of their pretentious rivals; and are destined to grow up, probably, as distinct in sentiment and object as are their parents from those mothers who now watch the glittering little pageants of the Tuileries avenue.—B.



THE GARDENS OF THE TUILERIES.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE)



SCENE ON THE BOULEVARDS DES ITALIENS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE CAFES OF PARIS.

THE Cafés of Paris are a world apart. They are associated with all that is gay, all that is elegant, even much that is intellectual, in that "whirligig of life," in search of which men, freed for a time from the cares of business or the wear of political or literary responsibilities, hasten to the splendid capital of our allies. They are the pride of every Parisian; for herein may be seen not only living illustrations of every grade of society, and amusing studies of foreign eccentricities, but also the gorgeous results of painted-workmanship. Nothing in the Tuileries, nor even the gilded and painted reception-rooms of the Hôtel de Ville, nor the Salon des Glaces at Versailles, can surpass, in their wealth of gold-leaf, carving, and pictorial embellishments, the spacious halls in which the *flâneur* of the Boulevards sips his absinthe and his coffee. If there be a want of palatial clubs in Paris, there is assuredly no lack of all the elegant conveniences which even the best London club offers to the most exclusive of subscribers. To be sure the Parisian rooms are open to all the world—to the blouse out for his Monday, as freely as to the count whiling away an hour over the *Press*, that he may not arrive too early *en soirée*. But then this freedom, this mixture of classes, does not offend even the most refined sensibility. The private may be seen at the table next the colonel, freely enjoying his Lyons beer, and perfectly at his ease in the presence of his superior. The love of exclusiveness, which appears to be the vital element of London clubs, and which is altogether foreign to the French character, which would only provoke ridicule, if it were displayed by any knot of coxcombs, must be fairly instilled into Parisian society, before a Pall-mall can arise on the banks of the Seine. Let it be the special duty of White's to examine into the possibility of creating in Paris assemblies of exclusive gentlemen after its own pattern. We decline to enter into the question; being, at present, content with the wonderful lines of open houses, decorated with exquisite taste, which stretch along the Boulevards from the Madeleine almost to the Column of July. Well heated when the east wind sweeps along the broad pavements, and benumbed even the most active limbs—open to the ground, and pleasantly shaded from the sun, when Paris poodles idle about, their noses buried in wire-baskets, in the dog-days;—inviting the shivering traveller (quite irrespective of the distance he has journeyed, and the day on which he feels the want of refreshment) to warm himself with a little glass of punch, soft as velvet; or bidding the parched pilgrims from the Tuileries-gardens try the effect of *groseille* amid the perfume of flowers fresh, last market-day, from the country—the Cafés of Paris present an inviting aspect at any season of the year. Their reward is an extraordinarily extensive patronage—from eight o'clock every morning till eleven o'clock every night all the year round. Here the bachelor breakfasts, or rather takes the preliminary *café au lait*, that shall enable him to support rature till mid-day, when he will sit deliberately down to his first meal. Then men who have been working very early in the morning drop in to breakfast simply—with a bill of fare of eggs and bread, and coffee or chocolate. Then, towards noon, stragglers of all kinds—men out for a holiday; students who have furnished themselves with excuses for a day's idleness; *roués* who have just managed to scramble from their beds, to moisten their parched throats; old gentlemen, with the ribbon of the Legion at their button-hole, who are anxious to see the morning papers; keen-eyed speculators from the Bourse, who have made an important appointment; perhaps an old bronzed lady from the country, accompanied by a dapper son who has obtained a day's freedom in consideration of the maternal visit: these are among the matutinal patrons of a central Parisian café. The list may be largely increased by Germans anxious for beer; Englishmen who, having breakfasted at their hotel, evince an early and irresistible desire for titter ale, at two francs per bottle; Italians in search of solid ices of the Neapolitan pattern, at Pergod's; some lounging Spaniards and sharp Jews from Hamburg, remarkable at once for whiskers and watch-chains. But it is after the mid-day breakfasts that the Cafés become gay with the rapid, laughing, careless, thoughtless life of Paris.

It is a fine summer day. The air is heavy with the mid-day heat. Lazily the *remises* roll along the Boulevards—heavily the Auvergnat moves along with his buckets of Seine water—still lightly and briskly the grisette skips along, with her dark green bonnet-box, dreaming of the dinner at the "Robinson," some attentive Victor has promised her for the coming Sunday. Dapper waiters—to be seen only in Paris—draw down the awnings, arrange the familiar green round tables along the pavement, throw a little damp yellow sand under them, and await their certain customers. They presently come tripping along in lively, laughing groups. Parties who, after the matutinal *demi-casse*, intend to make the tour of the lake in the Bois de Boulogne; strong musterings of the *demi-monde*, in the liveliest of colours; sallow gentlemen to whom dominoes are irresistible attractions; squat tradesmen, whose wives are keeping the shop and the looks thereof, and who are making snug savings unknown to their truant husbands)—all swell the list of patrons who support the Cafés of the Boulevards. At this time of the year the stiff collars and pendent whippers of Piccadilly show themselves in the midst of the throng. Particularly at the Café Cardinal, which our Artist has represented, are our brave countrymen to be found, airing their eccentricities for the amusement, and spending their money for the profit, of our allies. But according to the hotel keepers, the Palais Royal Jewellers, and the cabmen—the English are but sorry substitutes for the absent Russian nobles. John Bull enjoys the reputation of having become "too knowing." It is said that he knows the cab tariffs of the capital as well as a born Parisian—that he no longer gives ten sous instead of two sous to café waiters—that he fully understands the cheapness of French wines, and no longer strolls about with the idea that his shillings are worth only one franc each. Therefore, when he sits down at one of these little green tables, in company with Mrs. Bull in the Camberwell bonnet (which Lucy Hocquet must regard as a fit present for the Archaeological Society), the waiter brings the lady the little stool for her feet, as he brings one for those of the neat grisette, but without betraying any particular anxiety to pay special attention to the foreigners. Our prestige as thoughtless spendthrifts is gone. The waiter is now perfectly convinced that Camberwell will not produce a handsomer *pour-boire* than the Rue de Breda; and he measures out his civility accordingly. Not that a Boulevard waiter can be uncivil. Civility appears to be the motive power of his life. That wonderful fleetness with which he dashes through the Café into the open air, and threads his way through the rows of lounging customers at the green tables, carrying upon the tops of his four fingers and thumb an immense pile of cups, liqueur-glasses, tumblers, bottles of iced water, and lumps of sugar, which are the glory of childhood in Paris—appears to be the noble effort of a chivalrous nature. Ask him for a light, and he produces lucifers from any pocket. Although people are calling him, or hissing to him in various directions, he finds time to light two or three lucifers, and even hold them till the fumes of the sulphur have passed away before he presents them to you. He pretends to be a judge of the weather: he has his opinions, of course, on the conduct of the war; he knows by heart the last despatch from Pelissier; he is "up," as the phrase runs, in the closing prices of the public funds; and he is voluble about the theatres. He is free with you; has a light retort for every attempted joke; but he is never familiar—never rude. You may forget his *pour-boire* when you pay, and he will receive the exact sum of the little bill without an observation. On the other hand, even when you handsomely acknowledge his services, he is dignified. He thanks you—but not with that painful submission, that torturing obsequiousness peculiar to the over-paid waiter in a London tavern. As customers crowd in to the Café—invade every table—every man raising his hat to the splendid lady at the splendid counter as he enters—as the hissing of impatient customers increases—the waiter's energy rises to the level of the occasion. He dashes about with a tremendous impetuosity; he shouts to the man whose life is passed carrying a huge coffee-pot in one hand and an equally large milk-can in the other, to the various tables of his master's establishment, to pour out at numbers seven, eight, and ten; he calls for a dozen ices in one breath; he answers the questions of one table while he satisfies the wants of another. Doing three or four distinct things at once, he is yet never confused; and he seldom blunders. Order four ices—one, half vanilla and half lemon; the second, half pistache and half raspberry; the third, half orange and half strawberry; and the fourth, half pineapple and half currant;—and the chances are that he will bring them to your table, together with an equal number of different combinations for your neighbours, without making a single mistake. The reader who wishes to study the Parisian waiter in perfection, should choose a fine summer's night, and take his seat outside the rotonde in the Palais Royal about eight o'clock, in the midst of about three hundred people, served by about eight waiters, who caper, loaded with crockery and newspapers, with an activity that any Harlequin might envy. The number of people who visit some of the well-known Paris Cafés, in the course of a summer's day, is astonishing. For instance, the director of Pergod's Neapolitan ice establishment, expects to sell, every fine summer's evening, no less than one thousand ices. If the consumption fall short of this estimate, he is discontented with his waiters.

Not the least amusing feature in Café life is the conversation heard by snatches, and varying every ten minutes. On one side the silent smoker hears that La Ristori is a most amiable person and an excellent mother; on the other, that she is neither amiable, married, nor a mother. From a dark corner come

murmurs about five hundred thousand francs—directors—forty per cent at the very least—and two thousand free shares. Laughter escapes merrily from under shaggy beaver hats opposite, intermingled with murmurs about Victor's model, Mère Marteau's table d'hôte, the armour upon Jules's Knight, and the shortness of Diana's legs in Adolphe's latest performance. From behind the Ristori authorities come snatches, in which—a friend of mine—lives at the Tuileries—heard it himself—impossible to be taken—a million a day—are very prominent. Two ladies are included in the group from which the above mysterious syllables proceeded. From them come silvery whispers, in which—she laces I am sure—she went to Madame de Tivoli's in it last year—he is very stingy—thirty-five at the very least—are distinct to every neighbour.

From the Café proper we turn naturally to the Estaminet. The Estaminet is a café wherein smoking is allowed, and where, consequently, ladies are seldom seen. Here may be found the young men of Paris playing billiards; chatting with the lady at the elegant counter; whiling away a summer's morning over a pack of fumbled cards, or enjoying the moderate excitement of dominoes. The company is neither so elegant nor so quiet as that of the Café. The waiters adopt the free tone of their society and hum airs as they serve at sinthe; or give their opinion on difficult points, in any of the games going forward. Gay young fellows, remarkable for tight trousers and loose morals, come humming in, their hats on the back of their heads, and their hands in their pockets. They know everybody—the lady at the counter, the waiters, the old gentlemen at cards, and the young men at billiards. They take *cassis*, while the old gentlemen sip *café sucré* flavoured with orange-flower-water. Here the snatches of conversation affect reputations; hint at all kinds of political immorality; express a profound distrust in everybody and everything; and give form to all kinds of unreasonable hopes. The visitor who is anxious to see Young Paris should, however, pay a visit to some of the more conspicuous Estaminets of the Boulevards and the Quartier Latin; while the quiet traveller, who affects elegance and detests tobacco—to whom the click of billiard balls is disagreeable—may take his seat at the Café du Cardinal, the Café d'Anglais, or Tortoni's or the Café de Paris, and there watch all that is light, and cheerful, and exhilarating in the respectable life of Paris.

A HERO OF THE WAR—SIR STEPHEN LAKEMAN.

WHEN Sir Stephen (then Mr. Lakeman) returned from the Cape of Good Hope, where he had rendered such eminent services to his country in the Kafir war—services which the Government, not without ungracious delay and difficulty, acknowledged, by rewarding him with honorary distinction—we called attention in the columns of this Paper to the serious injury our public service sustained by the obstinate adherence to forms, which in that case—if not in others—prevented the Government from securing the services of a thoroughly efficient officer. Mr. Lakeman was knighted, but, finding it impossible to procure military employment in the British army, he was forced to seek service under a foreign power. We stated at the time, that we should watch the career of this officer. The following particulars with regard to him afford additional illustration of the necessity for the removal of those ridiculous barriers which in Great Britain still impede the path of energy and merit, but which are not allowed in other countries to stand in the way:—

Sir Stephen Lakeman, having been denied rank in the British Army, was appointed, in the month of February, 1854, Colonel of the 2nd Regiment of Guards in the Turkish service, and with them he proceeded to the Danube, where he took part in the operations before Silistria. When the Russians raised the siege of that fortress he inflicted severe losses on their rear-guard. The bravery he displayed on that occasion caused Omar Pacha to appoint him Inspector-General of the Turkish Cavalry. The Sultan shortly afterwards raised him to the rank of Pacha. In the month of June following he was made a General of Brigade, and took the command of the Turkish advanced guard at the crossing of the Danube. On that occasion he followed up the Russians in their retreat to Bessarabia. At the brilliant affair of Buzeo, the Turks, under Sir Stephen, charged and defeated the enemy under General Anrep. He was then appointed Governor and Commandant of Bucharest, and, during five months' joint occupation of that city with the Austrians, his energy and prudence protected the interests of the Sultan against the nefarious attempts of the Austrians, under Count Coronini, to coerce and Russiasse the inhabitants. When the Turks retired from Wallachia, Sir Stephen was sent to direct and superintend the embarkation of the Turkish troops at Sizopoli for the Crimea. On his arrival at Sizopoli he had many difficulties to surmount; but by energy and enterprise he employed the troops under his command in the construction of a pier or jetty. Finding a good supply of wood in an adjoining forest, he was enabled in a very short space of time to construct one of the most perfect and useful jetties in Turkey, running out 570 feet into the sea, and having twenty-five feet depth of water at its extreme point. From this he embarked the whole of his cavalry and troops, without any loss or accident. This jetty now remains a most useful addition to the public works of Turkey, and from which as many as 750 horses and 2000 men have been safely embarked in one day. After the embarkation of these troops Sir Stephen proceeded to the Crimea; and, in the attack of the Memel, he was one of the first to enter that doubtful, for which he received the decoration of the Legion of Honour from the Emperor of the French, and was made a Lieutenant-General in the Turkish service, the Sultan also rewarding him with the Grand Cross of the Order of Medjidieh. In addition to these marks of distinction, he has been presented with the Medal of Honour for the campaign of the Danube.

Sir Stephen Lakeman is now in London, having returned to this country on short leave of absence for his personal affairs. He returns in a few days to the Crimea.

NASMITH'S WROUGHT-IRON GUN.—We understand that the first of the two gigantic pieces of artillery to be made at the Bridgewater Foundry is now nearly forged, but how long the succeeding operations of turning and boring may take, and the gun be ready for shipment to the Baltic—for that we believe is its destination—is more than we or any one, we presume, can tell. At all events, it cannot be practically tested this year. The mass of iron, composed of small slabs, welded together by the four-ton steam-hammer, is at present a huge, shapeless lump, apparently some 8 or 10 feet long, by 3 or 4 feet in diameter. The process of forging presents a grand sight; the enormous mass of white-hot iron being turned and shifted under the hammer with as much ease and dexterity as if it were a common axletree. Indeed, the whole apparatus—the hammer, the hydraulic-crane, &c.—is quite a triumph of mechanical skill and genius. Several of the balls are now ready. They weigh a little more than half a ton, and are of an oblate spheroid shape, cut at one end; in fact, not unlike the common minie ball. Should the gun answer, its power and range must necessarily make great havoc when directed against stone fortifications.—*Manchester Guardian*.

A MANOR IN DEVONSHIRE LOST BY A GAME OF CARDS.—In the year 1848 I was staying with a friend at Kennerleigh, who, knowing I was fond of old places and old things, took me to Dowrish-house, belonging to Captain Clayfield, built in the time of King John, the centre only remaining. It is approached through a gatehouse. Mrs. Clayfield showed us some portraits of the Dowrish family, and a marble table inlaid with cards and counters, showing the two hands of piquet held by Mr. Dowrish and an ancestor of the present Sir Stafford Northcote who were playing together, when Mr. Dowrish, thinking he had won the game, betted the manor of Kennerleigh, and lost it. The Northcotes hold it at the present time. The marble table was made to commemorate this event.—*Notes and Queries*.

MR. LAING AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—The Chairman of Mr. Laing's election committee has addressed the following letter to Lord Palmerston:—"Wick, August 6. My Lord, I have just read with deep regret the speech delivered by the member for the Northern Burghs in the House of Commons on Friday evening, and while still entertaining the highest esteem for my hon. friend's public and private character, I nevertheless feel called upon, as chairman of his central committee at last election, to state to your Lordship that the sentiments expressed by the hon. member on that occasion are not, in my opinion, the sentiments of his constituents, an overwhelming majority of whom I believe to be prepared to make still greater sacrifices in supporting the Executive in a vigorous prosecution of the war in which this country and our noble allies, the French, have been reluctantly involved. We do not view the war as a question of counterpoise versus limitation, but a great contest between civilisation and barbarism, and of liberty against despotism, and that not only ought her Majesty's Government to insist on a material guarantee for the future, but for indemnification for the past.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, your humble obedient servant, DAVID DAVIDSON.

A TEN-TON NUGGET.—The *North British Mail* says:—"We have seen a letter from Melbourne, dated the 10th May, per the *George Marshall*, to a respectable firm in town, wherein it is stated that a rumour was then prevalent in Melbourne that a piece of solid gold weighing ten tons had been found at the Tarragower diggings. If this turns out to be true, it will have an important and beneficial effect upon the trade of the colony."

SUBDIVISION OF THE LAND IN FRANCE.—The *Constitutionnel*, quoting a fresh volume on the statistics of France, by the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, under the direction of M. Legoyt, now the chief of the statistical bureau, observes that—"France, *par excellence*, the country of midding and small properties. The cadastre shows us the soil split into 126,000 parcels, belonging to 11,053,000 proprietors. This refers, as we have said before, to the mean year 1827. It results from the examination of the rolls of the land-tax taken more recently that the number of land portions was 11,511,000 in 1842; and that it has successively mounted to 13,122,000 in 1854. The proportion of increase would consequently be upon 1827, on a yearly average, more than 18 per cent in 1854."

PHOTOGRAPHY.—M. Claudet has just been appointed, by special warrant, Stereoscopic Photographer in Ordinary to her Majesty.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

It is said that, on her Majesty's return from France, his Royal Highness the Prince Consort will take a trip up the Baltic in the Royal yacht.

The report in Paris is that, if the Empress Eugénie gives birth to a daughter, the Emperor will repeal the Salic Law, in order that his daughter may reign.

The Paris Mint is now engaged in striking a medal in commemoration of the visit of Queen Victoria. It will be executed in gold, platinum, aluminium, silver, and bronze.

The King of Denmark lately sent his portrait to the Emperor Napoleon.

The Emperor of the French has himself selected the pictures which are to adorn the residence at Paris of her Majesty and Prince Albert. Some of the choicest pictures from the Louvre will hang for a while upon the walls of the Palace of St. Cloud.

The banner, sword, crown, and achievements of the Emperor of the French were last week placed by Sir Charles Young, Garter King of Arms, over the stall of his Imperial Majesty, which immediately faces that of the King of Prussia, in the Chapel Royal of St. George, Windsor.

The ex-Queen of the French has enjoyed much better health since taking up her residence at Beaumaris, where the family are likely to remain some weeks longer.

The Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha-Cohary have arrived at Dresden from Vienna. The Duke and Duchess de Montpensier have also arrived from the same city.

The Prince de Joinville is expected to arrive at Vienna this week, on a Fuesienist visit to the Comte de Chambord.

The Emperor of the French has just placed at the disposal of the President of the Committee of Gendarmerie a sum of 10,000*fr.* to be distributed among the wives and children of the two battalions of the regiment of Gendarmerie of the Guard now in the Crimea.

Lord John Russell, with his lady and family, arrived at Edinburgh from London on the 9th inst., and left next morning for Dunkeld; whence, on Saturday, he was to renew his journey to Loch Rannoch, the seat of Lady Menzies, of which his Lordship has taken a lease for the shooting season.

The young King of Portugal and his brother were expected to arrive at Lisbon about the end of this week.

The Duke of Newcastle was, according to the last accounts, at the Camp before Sebastopol. He arrived in the *Ottawa* steamer, and intended to make a stay of a couple of weeks.

The Duke de Brabant, who is at present at Lucerne, lately made an excursion to the Rigi with the Abbé Mistin, who accompanied his Royal Highness to Jerusalem.

The Prince Royal of Saxony has arrived at Brussels, with his suite, travelling incognito, under the title of Count de Wessenstein.

Several of the Russian prisoners exchanged for French officers have lately had an interview with the Emperor of the French.

The King and Queen of Prussia were expected to remain at Ermansdorf until the middle of this month.

An effective photograph of Mdle. Rachel, in the character of *Isidre*, has been issued.

A Professorship of Tamil has been instituted at University College, London; and M. d'Ormeux von Streng has been appointed to the chair.

At the Ministerial fish-dinner which took place on Wednesday week a costly china cup was presented to the Right Hon. W. G. Hayter, M.P., by the members of her Majesty's Government, as a remembrance of the zeal and activity displayed by that gentleman in the discharge of his arduous duties during the present Session.

The Earl of Burlington and the Earl of Ellesmere are named as likely to succeed the Earl of Sefton as Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire.

Mr. Millard Fillmore, ex-President of the United States, has arrived in Paris.

Prince Wassa has left Paris, after having been received in special audience by the Emperor.

The Imperial Austrian Ambassador at the Court of St. Petersburg, Count Valentine Esterhazy, will remain at Vienna till the month of October.

M. Thouvenel, since his arrival at Constantinople, has had frequent interviews with Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and the most perfect cordiality is said to prevail between the two Ambassadors.

Prince Augustus, third son of King Oscar of Sweden, has started on a journey for the benefit of his health. He will be absent for some months, and will probably visit Switzerland and Italy. He travels in the strictest incognito, under the name of M. de Dahlsheld.

The Very Rev. Dr. O'Brien has been appointed Roman Catholic Bishop of Waterford, by his Holiness Pope Pius IX.

Sir Moses Montefiore has arrived in Jerusalem with firmans authorising the foundation of several religious establishments, and even a synagogue, for the Jews.

A letter in the *Pays* from Lille, mentions the arrival there, on Wednesday, of Lady Raglan, on her way, with her family, to Paris. The widow of the late lamented Field Marshal is, it is said, one of the visitors to the Imperial Court.

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., late President of the Board of Trade, has succeeded to the estate of Ellerbeck-hall, near Chorley, by the death of his uncle, Mr. James Cardwell.

The Russian General, Bodisco, has arrived with his family at Brussels.

Lord C. J. F. Russell has kindly thrown open his garden and pleasure-grounds for the month of August, on Monday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, to the members of the Woburn Literary, Scientific, and Mechanics' Institution; also to the wives and friends of members.

Mdle. Rachel sailed for New York on Saturday, in the *Pacific*. When the steamer had received all her passengers and mails on board, and was about to depart, the gifted actress appeared at the stern of the vessel, where she was greeted with cheers and waving of handkerchiefs, which she gracefully returned.

The Duke of Cornwall's Exhibition, granted to the Government School of Mines by the Prince of Wales, has this year been awarded to Mr. Gould, a son of the eminent ornithologist.

Mr. Massey, M.P. for Newport, has been appointed Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, in succession to the Hon. W. F. Cowper, now President of the Board of Health.

Abd-el-Kader has been summoned from Broussa, in consequence of his request that he might be in France at the time of the visit of Queen Victoria.

The Archbishop of Paris has addressed a circular to his clergy, directing a "Te Deum" to be sung in all the churches of his diocese on the 15th, and ordering prayers to be offered up for the life of the Emperor, and also for the valiant army which so nobly supports the honour of France in the East.

At Barcelona several workmen of a superior class have been arrested as Socialist conspirators.

The Somerset Archaeological Society intend to hold their next meeting at Dunster, on the 21st inst.

The *Gazette de Cologne* states that the sittings of the Prussian Council of State will commence in September.

The Nottingham Anacreontic Society advertises in the local papers a prize of five guineas for the best glee, male voices, subject "The War." Competitors must be natives or residents of the town or county.

A Mr. Daft, civil engineer, has designed a war raft, 1500 feet long and 200 feet wide, propelled by screws and paddles, to carry a weight of 20,000 tons, at a speed of fifteen knots an hour.

The project of a new Corn Exchange at Chelmsford seems to be well received. A committee has been appointed to consider the selection of the site.

A German journal states that after the recent earthquake in the Grand Duchy of Baden the malady in the potatoes was observed to have returned.

The Victoria Regia, in the Royal Zoological Gardens at Brussels—a gigantic plant—just now shows three beautiful blossoms on the surface of the water.

Among the medical graduates of the Edinburgh University who obtained their diplomas at the last examination, were a Chinese and four Egyptians. The Chinese graduate, Wong Fun, is believed to be the first of the Celestials who has ever graduated at a British University.

The University of Königsberg intends to erect a monument to the philosopher Kant, once the great ornament of that institution. It is to be a statue in bronze, and will be placed on the daily promenade of the great man, which, after him, has been called "der Philosophenteig" (the Philosopher's Path).

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

PARLIAMENT is up, and the leading daily journal reminds us that there is now no quarter to apply to for information as to the great question of the day—except the press. Society is inclined to be consoled. The exception is rather an important one; and, if we come to look into the real state of the case, even more important than it seems at the original view. In the first place, all the information which has been afforded, early and ungrudgingly, ever since the war began, has been given by the press; and, secondly, it is only upon the platform of press statements that the Parliamentary questioners have taken their stand, and extorted confirmation from the authorities. "Our Own Correspondent" has long made it his business to anticipate Ministerial revelations; and though Lord Panmure is laudably prompt with his "compliments," "happiness," or "regrets," as the case may be, we are in nowise beholden to Parliament for this. As for the information elicited by questions, it is very second-hand business, and a mere echo of newspaper paragraphs. A century ago honourable members used to receive private letters from abroad, or pretend they did so, and could preface their inquiries with some dignity: "Sir, by advices from Turkey merchants which have come to hand, it is known that the Great Mogul hath adventured;" or, "We hear, Sir, though 'tis denied by some who walk up backstairs, that the Elector and the Dutch are no cater-cousins;" but this sort of thing is over, and members of Parliament know no more than they learn over their coffee and muffins, and can only ask the Minister of the day to "correct the press." We can dispense with this operation, the rather that the press is generally right, and almost always so when contradicted officially; and, upon the whole, we shall be able to comprehend the progress of the war, even though there is no member of the Cabinet in his place to answer, evade, or mystify.

There may be no particular reason why members of a Cabinet should think alike upon any given subject, but one has a sort of notion that a Government is valuable because its opinion is the result of the united thought of several clever and practical men. Hence English people dislike "open questions," and are almost annoyed at seeing colleagues contradict one another. Perhaps it would be as well if statesmen condescended to respect this English prejudice a little. Our present rulers are rather above such a consideration. On the Limited Liabilities Bill, Lord Lansdowne expressed, very handsomely, his thanks to the Lords for the amendments which they had introduced into the measure, by which it was greatly improved; and the Premier, in presenting it with those alterations to the Commons, remarked that, objectionable as the amendments were, it was better to pass the bill with them than not to pass it at all. And still more recently the Solicitor-General having spoken with some acerbity of the Lords' system of appeals, and had ridiculed the practice of the law Lords in attending on occasions of appeal as they would on an ordinary debate, hearing as much or as little as they pleased, and deciding after such careless hearing, the Lord Chancellor entirely denied the truth of his learned colleague's assertions, and expressed regret that they should have been made. All the public can say is comprised in the old sentiment—"May difference of opinion never alter (political) friendship."

Was not the Judge a little hard upon the gallant militia officer of Aldershot who brought the action for breach of promise of marriage against the "remarkably fine young lady" the other day? One is quite with Mrs. Norton, as to the unfair way in which woman is treated by her master; but is man to have no feelings at all? Here was really an aggravating case. The officer had not been a cruel Captain Smith who lived in country quarters, but had made the most decorous offer, had been accepted, had been an unexceptionable suitor, had made such progress in the lady's affections that she wrote him letters containing "lots of love and lots of kisses from your own little pet," had bought presents and dresses, and things had gone so far that bridesmaids had been "retained"—when the "little pet" talks to her big brother, is convinced that she did not love the military party, and throws him over, in a prettily-worded billet certainly, and one that must make him feel more acutely the loss of a girl who can write so touchingly. His friends laugh at him, he hears that injurious rumours touching his rejection are about, and he brings his action, "not for damages, but to vindicate his character." The Judge is particularly keen about folk of callous mind, who will drag into court those whom they have loved, make their letters a laughing-stock, and so forth. Really, upon the report I see nothing to call for this kind of stricture; nor did the jury who heard the case, and gave the rejected man £300. Is there to be no "law for ladies"—the game of hearts to be all "heads, I win; woman, you lose"?

Those who are unluckily old enough to recollect the Siamese Twins (I don't mean Sir Bulwer Lytton's book), and have been talking about them "at good men's feasts" ever since, may now hold their tongues. Something of the same kind, only prettier, is coming up. I saw the other night, at the Bedford Hotel, in Covent-garden, where the new arrivals stayed for a few hours, on their way from America to Paris, two little coloured girls, about five years old, whom nature has linked by an indissoluble band of some sixteen inches in diameter; and who, I suppose, will be duly exhibited for the delectation of the English metropolis, when their *entente cordiale* shall have been approved in France. There is nothing unpleasant in the sight—they are merry, woolly, playful little things, in striped yellow dresses, which open for the better disclosure of their curious structure, and they speak pleasant English, will not be called niggers, being, they say, "coloured individuals." Their names are Christina and Milly, and more will, I suppose, be heard of them one of these days.

The accident at Cremorne was a melancholy one, and I quite concur in the censure which is launched against all parody of the terrible drama of war. The same newspaper which mentioned the wounds of the soldiers injured in Mr. Simpson's travesty, gave us General Simpson's despatch, with a list of killed and wounded in the reality. But rebuke should be dealt out to all concerned, whether they [countenance, assist, visit, or get up up such things; and the proprietor of Cremorne should not be unduly blamed for doing what nearly every manager in London, besides his rival at the Surrey Zoological Gardens, has been doing in a greater or less degree since the war made a good play-bill line. The alleged carelessness as to the stability of the stages for the mock combatants is entirely another matter, and will, of course, be the subject for due investigation.

THE SMYRNA BRIGANDS.—The exploits of the robbers continue the great topic of interest here. It was said that one of the leaders, a private named Moro, had been taken at Samos, but this is not true. On the other hand it is true that the former leader, Yassin Katergi, has escaped from the prison at Constantinople, with five companions, and is of course on his way to join his brethren in arms. Rumour says that he has been assisted in his escape by Ismail Pacha, the late Pacha of Smyrna, who is jealous of his successor, Suleyman Pacha, and wants to disturb the local Government—a curious illustration of Turkish manners, if true. The last feat of the robbers was the burning of a model farm, belonging to some French merchants, about fifteen miles from the town. This was on the 26th July. The damage done amounted to £2500. It appears that some of the farm servants had been arrested by the rural police, on suspicion of supplying the robbers with food, and the proprietors refused to defend them. In revenge the farm was burnt. This farm had been built six years ago, and the proprietors had brought twenty families from Alsace, to improve the system of agriculture. They will now quit the country. A few days before the band set fire to the village of Gumuldur, and burnt a large quantity of corn and straw belonging to peaceable Turkish inhabitants. With all this, and a great deal of talk about pursuit, none of the robbers are captured. Many villagers are in prison on suspicion of sheltering them and supplying them with food, but the robbers are all at liberty.—*Letter from Smyrna.*

To counteract the influence of an "enormous sale of books of an immoral and irreligious tendency," an association has been formed, under the title of "The East Sussex Book-Hawking Association," under the patronage of the Bishop of the Diocese, and with other distinguished support.

CHESS.

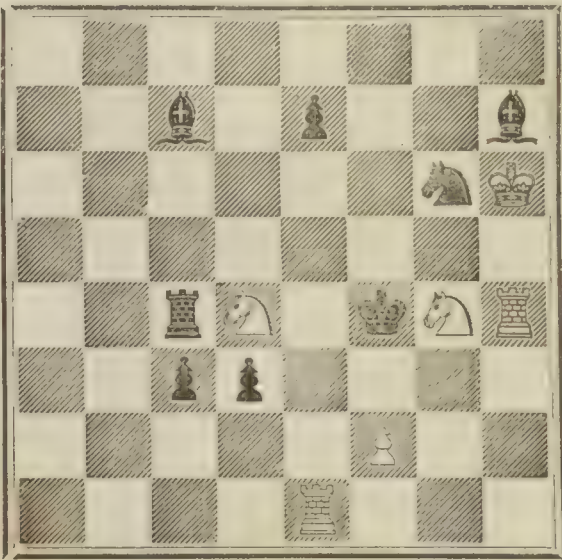
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. J. G., San Francisco.—Your batch of Problems, just received, shall be all duly examined and rep. sent to you.
R. D. H., Lyme.—Calling "Check" does not oblige a player to give check, unless he has let go his hold of the piece touched.
MEDICUS.—Communications requiring answers the same week should reach us not later than Tuesday night.
G. M. G.—It has been decided that Casting is not admissible in a Problem; your second position is, therefore, inadmissible.
C. M. B., Dundee; I. T. C., Blackheath.—Our opinion shall be given next week.
I. A. M., Fakenham; I. L. of York.—See the notice to G. W. of Sudbury in last week's Number.
EDMONTON.—It is a great defect in Mr. Grimshaw's Problem, 597, that it admits of so commonplace a solution as the one you and others suggest. The solution we gave is perfectly correct.
FRANKLIN, Philadelphia.—The system of notation you propose is a very old one, and was formerly in use here. It has some advantages over the still more ancient method we now adopt, but is much inferior to that in vogue throughout Germany and the North of Europe. See "The German Handbuch," Jacobi's "Analyse Nouvelle," and Alexandre's "Encyclopédie des Échecs."
H. T.—The following is one of the best, if not the very best, two-move problems, we have met with:—White: K at K B 5th, Q at K 4th, R at K R 8th and Q R sq. Black: K at Q R sq, R at Q K sq, and Q R 2nd, P at Q K 2nd. White playing first, mates in two moves.
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 597, by M. N. Paracelsus, Doublesque, Edmontou, R. A., Old Salt, Nettrator, J. P. C., D. G., Beldian, Onoga, Peter II., are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 598, by Derevon, M. G. S., D. G., J. A. M., Fakenham, T. W. G., F. R., Norwich, Ajax, D. C. L., (Edipus, T. J., Hanworth, E. B. C., Oxford, Excelsior, R. H., Guernsey, J. P., are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 599, by Derevon, T. F., A. D., M. P., Philip, True Blue, J. A. M., Lant, Miranda, Miles, Philz, R. A., Portara, Excelsior, are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by Derevon, Omega, Philip, S. S., M. P., G. J. V., F. R. S., H. G., J. T. C., are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 593.
WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to K B 2nd. Kt takes B*
2. Kt to K 3rd (ch). K moves
* Black has a variety of moves, but none which can delay the mate.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 599.
WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt to Q K 4th (ch). K to Q B 4th (best)
2. Q to K 4th (ch). K or B takes Q
3. B Mates

PROBLEM No. 600.
By E. B. C., Hoboken, U.S.



White to play, and mate in four moves.

The following is an instructive game played between M. Von HEYDEBRAND and M. DE RIVIERE.

(Scotch Gambit.)
WHITE (M. Von H.) BLACK (M. de R.)
1. P to K 4th. P to K 4th.
2. P to Q 4th. P takes P.
3. K Kt to K B 3rd. Q Kt to Q B 3rd.
4. K B to Q B 4th. P to K B 3rd.
5. P to K 5th. P to Q 4th.
6. K B to Q Kt 5th. K Kt to K 5th.
7. Kt takes P. Q B to Q 2nd.
8. B takes Kt. P takes B.
9. Castles. K B to Q B 4th.
10. P to Q B 3rd. Castles.
11. Q Kt to Q 2nd. K to K 2nd.
12. Q Kt to K B 3rd. K B to Q Kt 3rd.
13. P to Q R 4th. P to Q R 4th.
14. P to K R 3rd. P to Q 4th.
15. K Kt to K 2nd. P to Q B 3rd.
16. B to K B 4th. P to K B 3rd.
17. B to K R 2nd. P to K B 4th.
18. Q Kt to Q 2nd. P to Q 5th.
19. K Kt to Q 4th. P to K B 5th.
20. Q Kt to K B 3rd. Q R to Q B sq.
21. K R to K sq. P to K Kt 4th.
22. Q to K 2nd. P to K R 4th (a).
23. Kt takes Kt. P takes Kt.
24. Kt takes Kt. Q takes Q.
25. Q takes K P. Q R to K sq.
26. R takes Q. B takes Kt.
27. Q R to K sq. R takes R.
28. P takes B. R to K sq.
29. R takes R. B takes R.
30. R takes R (ch). P to Q B 4th.
31. P to K R 4th. B takes Q R P.
32. P takes Q B P. B to Q B 3rd.
33. P takes K Kt P. K to Kt 2nd.
34. B takes P. K to Kt 3rd.
35. P to K B 3rd. P to Q R 5th.
36. K to Q 2nd. P to K R 5th.
37. B to B sq. P to K R 5th.
38. K to his 2nd—and wins.

(a) The fault of the Game. If, instead of playing thus, Black had boldly marched forward with his K Kt Pawn, it is pretty evident he would have been master of the situation in a very few moves.

CHESS IN LEIPSIK.

A brilliant little game between Herren ANDERSEN and SAALBACH.

(Evans's Gambit.)
WHITE (Herr A.) BLACK (Herr S.)
1. P to K 4th. P to K 4th.
2. K Kt to K B 3rd. Q Kt to Q B 3rd.
3. K B to Q B 4th. K B to Q B 4th.
4. P to Q Kt 4th. B takes Kt P.
5. P to Q B 3rd. B to Q R 4th.
6. P to Q 4th (a). P takes B.
7. Castles. P to Q 3rd.
8. P takes P. K Kt to K B 3rd (b).
9. Q to Q R 4th. Q B to Q 2nd.
10. K B to Q Kt 5th. K B to Q Kt 3rd.
11. P to K 5th (c). P to Q R 3rd.
And Black surrendered.

(a) In his observations upon the present Game, the Editor of the *Vienna Schachzeitung* attributes the merit of this variation to Mr. Andersen. We believe this to be an error. The move of 6. P to Q 4th was known and practised here some years before Mr. Andersen introduced it in his ingenious variations on the Evans's Gambit in 1851.
(b) If to Q Kt 3rd is considered to be a better move.
(c) He might also have played Q B to K Kt 5th advantageously; but the move made is probably more attacking.

(d) He should have played Q to her 3rd, with the view of afterwards moving the King to Q 2nd. Even then, however, he must have had a very uphill battle to fight.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

(From the *Weiner Schachzeitung*.)

No. 931.
White: K at Q Kt 6th, R at K R sq and Q B 2nd, Kt at K B 4th; Ps at K Kt 3rd, K B 2nd and 5th, and Q Kt 3rd.
Black: K at his 4th; Ps at K R 7th, K Kt 5th, K B 3rd, Q 2nd and 4th, Q Kt 2nd, and Q R 6th.

White to play and mate in four moves.

No. 932.
White: K at Q B 2nd, R at Q R 5th, B at Q B sq, Kt at K B 4th; Ps at Q 2nd and 3rd, and Q Kt 6th.
Black: K at Q 5th, B at K Kt 5th, Kts at K B 3rd and Q 8th, Ps at Q Kt 2nd and Q R 3rd.

White to play and mate in three moves.

No. 933.
White: K at K B 3rd, Q at Q Kt sq, Kt at Q Kt 6th.
Black: K at Q 5th; Ps at Q 3rd, Q B 3rd and 4th.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 934.
White: K at K R 8th, R at K R 7th and K B 3rd, Bs at K Kt 2nd, and K sq, Kts at Q B 4th and Q 6th, Ps at K B 4th and K 5th.
Black: K at Q sq, R at Q R 6th and 8th, Kts at K Kt 8th and Q R sq; Ps at K Kt 4th, K 3rd, Q 5th, Q Kt 3rd, and Q R 2nd.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

COUNTRY NEWS.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.—The approaching meeting of the British Association in Glasgow promises to be eminently successful. Colonel Lawlinson, whose name is so familiar to the public in connection with the deciphering of the cuneiform inscriptions upon the Assyrian monuments, has consented to deliver a lecture on the subject of these investigations, at one of the evening meetings. Another lecture will be delivered at an evening meeting, on natural history, by Dr. Carpenter, the distinguished physiologist. The agricultural chemists are expected to muster strong on the occasion, and important papers are expected both upon agricultural and manufacturing chemistry; and the absorbing subject of food adulteration will, it is said, be introduced in the chemical section.

THE TWELFTH OF AUGUST.—The *Inverness Courier* says:—"The excitement which the commencement of the grouse-shooting season occasions in the capital of the grouse-shooting country, has already commenced here. Coaches and steamers bring large daily accessions to the number of sportsmen who crowd to Inverness to have their sporting-gear put in order—to complete their kennels, and stock their shooting-boxes. Whether the season is to yield as much sport as in former years is a mystery which cannot be very satisfactorily solved till Monday. We may state, however, on the authority of the keepers of many of the best grounds in the Highlands, that there is good reason to expect an average number of birds on most moors. The young grouse will, however, be found in three stages—full-grown, half-grown, and little more than hatched. The season has been throughout a backward one."

GALLANT CHARGE OF THE LIMERICK MILITIA.—On Wednesday last considerable amusement was occasioned to the good people of Buttevant by the performance of a novel exploit by a party of the County Limerick Militia, at present stationed in that garrison. It appears that Mr. William Daly, whose popularity among the corps is unbounded, had a number of labourers employed in cutting down corn in a field adjoining one in which a party of this regiment were exercising at ball practice. A few volleys having been discharged, the men ceased firing for a short time, and, being "at ease," they were attracted by the reapers in the adjoining field, when, as if by a preconcerted arrangement, they all, to a man, cleared the fences, and, throwing aside their arms, seized the "hooks," and in an exceedingly short time laid the field low, to the great amusement of the astonished reapers and the satisfaction of Mr. Daly.—*Cork Reporter.*

EIGHTY MILES FOR A SHILLING.—The effects of railway competition were shown at Manchester on Saturday last, when the Lancashire and Yorkshire and East Lancashire Railway Companies each advertised to take passengers to Southport (a watering-place on the west coast, distant forty miles) and back, at a shilling each, the tickets available until Sunday evening. The result was that passengers presented themselves in such numbers that they had to stop booking, and refuse money. Each company sent off four long trains containing an average of more than 1000 persons in each train. Thus nearly 9000 persons were enabled to make the trip at the small charge of 1s., leaving the respective companies a profit of over £150 upon the speculation. The only drawback upon the pleasure of the visitors was that lodgings could not be got in Southport for so many people, and some of them were compelled to return on Saturday evening.

THE COLLIERIES' TURN-OUT AT RUABON.—This affair is likely to prove most disastrous to the numerous body of working men hitherto employed by the New British Iron Company. The turn-outs, about 1500 men and boys, are still away from their employment; and preparations have been commenced by the Company to close the works altogether after the coal already in hand has been used. The turn-out having now continued for five weeks, about 200 men have left the neighbourhood in quest of employment in other counties. The hands remaining are suffering much privation, and hundreds of them are wandering about the district daily begging alms for subsistence. Altogether there are nearly 2000 hands thrown out of employment by this turn-out. The average amount of wages received by the men and boys was 15s. per week, so that nearly £1500 weekly has been withdrawn from circulation in the neighbourhood. When the works close increased distress will be felt, and the poor-rate for the parish, which is now 5s. in the pound, will in all probability be doubled.

LARGE CAPTURE OF WHALES AT STORNOWAY.—On the 3rd inst., as several gentlemen were at dinner at Gress, ten miles from Stornoway, they were surprised to observe a number of whales, apparently in shoal water, spouting and blowing at no great distance from the house. They immediately hastened to the beach, and pushed off in a boat, armed with large knives, followed shortly after by four boats from the adjoining fishing village of Bach. After a struggle of four hours the whole number were driven ashore, most of them severely wounded, and the water all around dyed with their blood. The fishermen's wives were up to their waists in the water, and aided in the murderous fray. The struggles of these huge unwieldy animals, whilst floundering on the strand, and writhing under the strokes of knives and other weapons, were not unaccompanied with danger, as the blows delivered by their tails are extremely violent. The accidents which took place, however, were principally caused by reckless wielding of knives, by which means some severe cuts were sustained. The number of whales captured was sixty-three. They were sold by public auction on the beach, and the proceeds divided amongst the men who took part in the capture.

TICKET-OF-LEAVE CONVICTS.—The operation of the new law substituting penal servitude for transportation is, we are informed, daily becoming more and more felt in the increasing numbers of emancipated convicts, the great proportion of whom, it is asserted, return to their old vocations. Almost every steamer from London brings down several of these men here. Last week it is understood that eight ticket-of-leave men arrived at Granton Pier, and this week six others followed. A pretty large proportion of the panels now coming before the higher courts of justice are returned convicts.—*Edinburgh Courier.*

SHORT-HORNS FOR FRANCE.—The four yearling short-horn heifers, and the yearling bull Panmure, exhibited by Mr. Stewart Marjoribanks, at the Carlisle show, have been sold to a French nobleman for 500 guineas. This transaction has arisen from the recent exhibition of English stock in Paris, at which Mr. Marjoribanks was a successful competitor. His agent, Mr. Tallant, is commissioned to purchase a variety of good stock for the Frenchman, and the whole will shortly be exported to a fertile district in Normandy.

THREE BROTHERS DROWNED.—Three boys, sons of Mr. Matheson, farmer, Fishbits, Aberdeenshire, aged eleven, thirteen, and fifteen, were drowned on Sunday morning last, in the pond of a saw-mill at Kirktown of Durris. The two youngest, having taken off their clothes, had gone in to bathe, and, either venturing too far, or being otherwise in danger, their elder brother had jumped in to their assistance, when the whole three were drowned. It was about three o'clock in the afternoon, and their father had returned from church, when the distracted mother was startled by seeing her eldest son's hat floating on the mill dam. The clothes of his two brothers were got by the side of the pond, and, on the mill water being drawn off, the bodies of the three youths were found, the eldest with his clothes on, and the youngest two undressed.

REPRIEVE OF A MURDERER.—The sentence of death passed upon Joseph Richards, at the last Brecon Assizes, for murder, will be commuted to transportation for life. It is said that evidence which, if it had been adduced at the trial, would, probably, have led to a verdict of manslaughter only, has been submitted to the consideration of Sir George Grey, and that, after conferring with Lord Campbell, before whom the case was tried, he is of opinion that the ends of justice will be sufficiently answered without the infliction of the extreme penalty of the law.

A MAN ENGULFED IN A QUICKSAND.—On Friday last several persons went from Sunderland over to the sands at the entrance of Jarrow Slake, to dredge for shrimps. Among them was a man named Bartram. He was dredging on the sands at some distance from the rest when he was suddenly heard to exclaim, "Lord Jesus save us!" and the next moment he was engulfed in a dangerous quicksand.

ROBBERIES AT WOLVERHAMPTON POST-OFFICE.—Out of 133 letters containing money which during the month of July passed through the Wolverhampton post-office, 49 have not yet reached their destination. Six letter-carriers and one clerk have been taken into custody, but no proof of guilt has yet been discovered. One person named Pratt, the senior sorter of the office, has been committed for trial on the charge of stealing a letter containing money.

A BOY KILLED BY LIGHTNING IN HIS MOTHER'S ARMS.—The wife of a bricklayer and her boy, aged 3½ years, were proceeding to Grimstone (Norfolk) Church, on Sunday week when they were overtaken by a storm. The mother took up her child and held an umbrella over their heads. The electric fluid struck the parent's feet, tearing open her boots and stockings, passing through her body as far as her breast to the child, whose breast was fatally struck, the poor boy dying two hours afterwards.

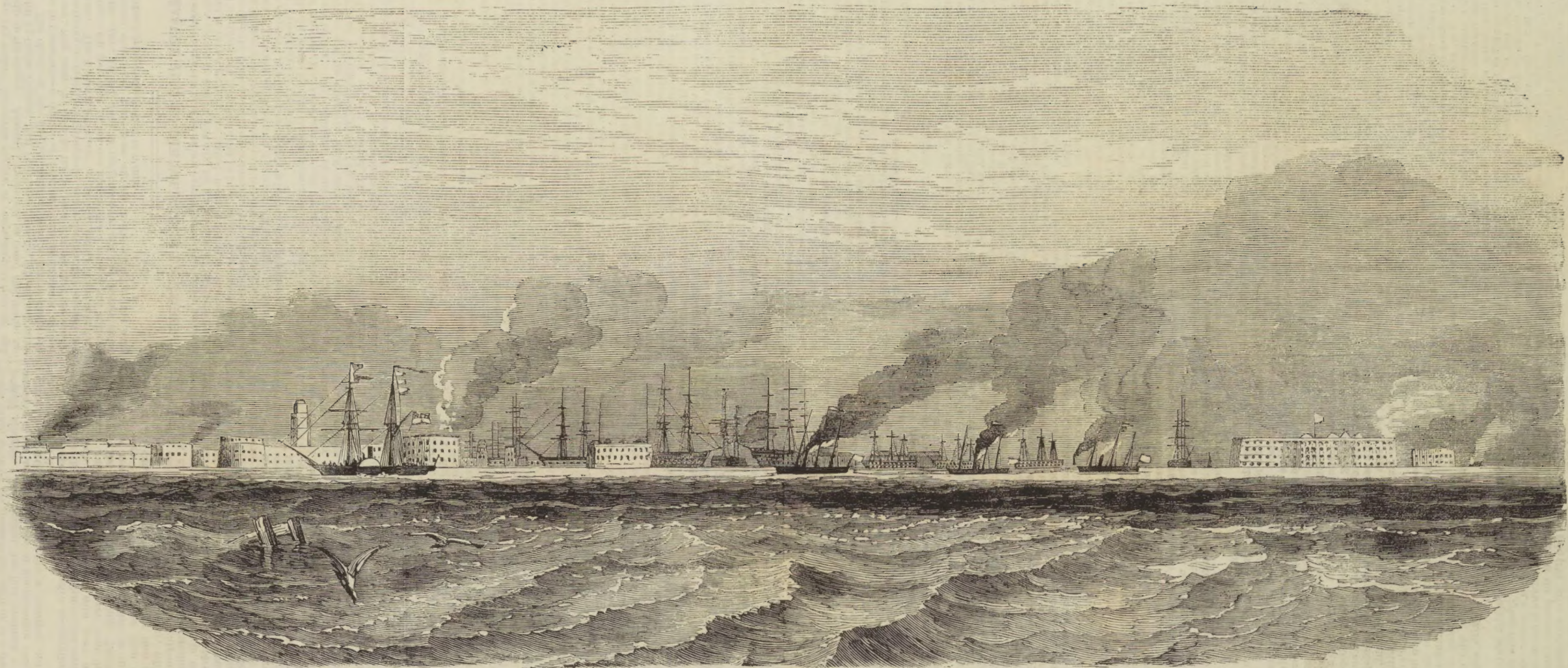
EMBEZZLEMENT BY A TAX-COLLECTOR.—On Tuesday morning information was communicated to the various police-stations in the metropolis, for the apprehension of Samuel Brothers, formerly collector of taxes in the county of Leicester, who has embezzled upwards of £200. It is supposed that he is now in London and will make for some seaport town, intending to emigrate to Australia. A reward is offered for his apprehension.

THE "BELLEISLE" HOSPITAL SHIP.

On the 26th ult. the *Vulture* was dispatched from Nargen to Faro to bring up the *Belleisle* hospital-ship, as she was lying comparatively useless at the latter place instead of being with the fleet. A few days afterwards the two vessels arrived at Nargen; and the *Sketch* we have given represents the *Belleisle* taking provisions on board.



"THE BELLEISLE HOSPITAL-SHIP TAKING PROVISIONS ON BOARD.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



ADMIRAL DUNDAS SURVEYING THE SOUTH ENTRANCE TO CRONSTADT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



PLEASURE TRIP TO THE TOLBOUKIN LIGHTHOUSE, IN THE BALTIC.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

ADMIRAL DUNDAS SURVEYING THE SOUTH ENTRANCE TO CRONSTADT.

ON the 7th of July the gun-boats represented in the Sketch on the preceding page—the *Thistle*, the *Pincher*, and the *Weazel*—conducted by the *Merlin*, were seen by the Russians in front of Cronstadt, but not so very near as to encourage any valiant Muscovite captain or commodore to rush out and offer battle to the enemy. Admiral Dundas was on board the *Merlin*, accompanied by Capt. Pelham, Hall, Codrington, Mundy, Elliott, and other officers. The object of the English Admiral was to survey the south entrance to Cronstadt—a degree of freedom which the Russians did not like to see: they knew it could be for no good purpose that our vessels were venturing so near their stronghold, and therefore they opened fire upon them. The *Menschikov* battery on the left, and the *Risbank* battery on the right, did their best to hit our nimble little vessels, but without effect; the shots all fell short of the gun-boats, and the *Merlin* sailed majestically along, her "streamers waving in the wind," as the song says, without firing a single shot in return.

A PLEASURE TRIP TO THE TOLBOUKIN LIGHTHOUSE.

A FEW months ago the St. Petersburg papers were filled with accounts of pleasure parties formed in that city, for the purpose of sailing down to Cronstadt to have a peep at the Allied fleets. As that was before the infernal machines had been found out to be of so little use, we may safely conclude that the Russians who came down to look out on the open sea, from which they now find themselves utterly debarred, expected to enjoy the pleasant spectacle of an exploded armada. Now that the French and English ships and gun-boats are found to be safe, the pleasure excursions from St. Petersburg are given up.

The Sketch given by our Artist represents a pleasure trip which a party of English officers and sailors made to the Tolboukin Lighthouse on the 24th of June. The two boats in the foreground are those of the *Royal George* and the *Cesar*, in which may be seen Commanders Boyd and Croft and the officers of those two vessels. As the day was fine, the sky being almost without a cloud, the view from the Lighthouse, which commands the city of St. Petersburg and a large tract of the surrounding country, must have been very fine.

RECONNOITRING TELESCOPES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—In the last number of your excellent journal, I saw a sketch and description of an instrument, or "apparatus," patented by Mr. Lubbock for reconnoitring purposes, &c. By Mr. Lubbock, I presume is meant Sir John Lubbock, the eminent member of Mansion-house-street, and one of the Vice-presidents of the Royal Society; and, if so, much good may be expected from his scientific mind being directed to this subject. But I was much surprised to read that he had taken out a patent for the application of a reflector to the end of a telescope, and am, therefore, induced to ask you to favour me with a small space in your columns for the following observations. Several years ago I had a telescope mounted upon precisely the same principle (for equatorial purposes), and it was in the model-room during the meeting of the British Association, when it last assembled at York. It was since placed for some time in the window of Mr. Jones, the optician, in Rupert-street, London, where it was noticed by different scientific men. I did not employ this principle as a new invention, for I had seen a telescope similarly constructed, in the Observatory at Oxford, many years before. The same principle was applied to an instrument brought before the Royal Astronomical Society by Mr. Rotherham last spring. I merely mention these points to explain my surprise at the principle being patented, especially as it is intended to be "a boon to the officers and others serving at the seat of war," and, on account of its trifling expense, to be "within the means of every one." In the beginning of June I submitted to the authorities of the War Office a cheap instrument, to answer the same purpose, which they were pleased to approve and adopt; and sent 1000 of them to the Crimea. But I did not, till required so to do, apply a telescopic power to it, lest the cost (which I found, on inquiry would increase the price from 2s. to about 30s. each) should prevent their being brought into general use. Nor did I even think of registering it, as my object was chiefly to give to the authorities any advantage it might possess for the good of the army, and I presume it has some merit or the Government would not have given me so substantial a proof of their approbation of it. In using Sir John Lubbock's instrument, there is some difficulty in finding the object, as you must look in a direction at right angles to a line between it and your eye. It also reverses objects, making the right to appear on the left, &c., which at first is somewhat perplexing. In my instrument that difficulty does not occur, as you look at once in the direction of the object, which appears exactly as it does to the naked eye. I must apologise for encroaching so much on your valuable space, but I am sure your impartiality will extend alike to all, even to Your humble and obedient servant,

79, Oxford-terrace, Hyde-park.

WM. TAYLOR.

CARDINAL WISEMAN AND THE REV. MR. BOYLE.—The Court at Croydon was densely crowded on Monday, principally by persons from London, who were attracted by an announcement that the case of "Boyle v. Wiseman," which has become so familiar to the public, would be tried for the third time. The Rev. F. Oakley (Canon) of Islington, and a large number of Roman Catholic priests were present; while the Rev. Dr. Worthington and some other clergymen of the Church of England, who sympathise with Mr. Boyle, attended for the purpose of watching the proceedings. Before the Court assembled, Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., and Mr. Wordsworth, representing Mr. Boyle; and Sergeant Shee, Mr. Bramwell, Q.C., and Mr. Bodeley, representing the Cardinal, had a lengthened consultation, when it transpired that although the case had been specially fixed for this morning, several of Mr. Boyle's chief witnesses were abroad and in Ireland, and that it would be damaging, if not destructive, to his case, if it proceeded without them. Under these circumstances the Cardinal's counsel intimated their intention of postponing the trial; but this course of proceeding was subsequently abandoned, it being shown that by such means the case would only be deferred, as Mr. Boyle would be in a position to go on with it at any future time, when his witnesses might be forthcoming. A proposition was then made on behalf of the Cardinal, that if Mr. Boyle would withdraw the record his Eminence would consent to pay the costs of the two former actions, and also of the one now pending. The counsel for Mr. Boyle appeared willing to accept this offer, if the Cardinal would consent to add thereto an apology for the libels he was said to have written and published reflecting upon the character of the plaintiff, and which led to the several actions. This proposition was rejected by the Cardinal's counsel; and, after some further discussion, it was agreed that the case should stand over during Monday.

KENSINGTON-GARDENS.—The Queen has given permission for the band of one of the regiments of Life Guards to perform in Kensington-garden on Sunday afternoon between five and seven o'clock. Sunday last was the first occasion on which Her Majesty's permission was rendered available, and at five o'clock Kensington-gardens were thronged by a most miscellaneous audience.

THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC.—The report of the Committee for Scientific Inquiries in relation to the cholera epidemic, which reached its height in 1854, was issued on Monday last. This, like the previous epidemic, extended over portions of two years, and the deaths in London, which were not very numerous in 1853, slightly exceeded the deaths in 1848. The deaths by cholera and diarrhoea in 1854 were, however, 5000 less than the number that would have been had the epidemic been as it was the epidemic of 1849, allowing ten per cent for increase in the population. In 1849 the deaths from cholera were 14,137; from diarrhoea, 3899; making together 18,036. In 1854 the deaths from cholera were 10,806; from diarrhoea, 4000; together, 14,806; showing that the reduction of mortality in 1854, as compared with 1849, was 4781 deaths from cholera, and 299 from diarrhoea. The second outbreak began later in the season in the last epidemic than it did in the epidemic of 1849, and the diminished figure of the mortality arises from the smaller number of deaths in the months of July and August. The disease had lost none of its virulence, and the deaths by cholera in September, 1854, being 6084, exceeded the deaths in September, 1849, by 1053. The danger of an attack of cholera varies with age; thus, at the age of 15-25, out of 100 persons attacked, 34.9 die; at the age of 25-35, the deaths to 100 cases are 25.4; at 35-45 the deaths to 100 cases are 58.2. The mortality of cases of diarrhoea also varies at different ages. The mortality among the male population was at the rate of 47, among the female population at the rate of 45, in 10,000. The council are of opinion that the public apprehension for the sanitary state of the metropolis should suffer no abatement, but that the most active and complete measures should be adopted to prevent the approach or to mitigate the violence of impending visitations. The council, in closing their report, suggest that these inquiries, to be useful, ought to be continued in the absence of the disease, which they aim at elucidating. It seems certain, they add, that in the chemistry of organic decomposition there is concealed a large share of the mystery to be solved, and it is impossible yet to say how much of the remainder may belong to undeveloped branches of meteorological science. Opportunities, therefore, ought not to be lost for establishing a better nominal standard than is yet discovered to measure the chemical and meteorological anomalies of an epidemic period.

Mr. Russell, it is reported, has resigned the chairmanship of the Great Western Railway, and is to be succeeded by Mr. S. Walpole, M.P. for Midhurst, and late Secretary of State for the Home Department, in the Cabinet of the Earl of Derby.

THE WAR IN ASIATIC TURKEY.*

THE march of Russian aggression in the Asiatic provinces of Turkey has been attended with continuous and desultory warfare for years past; and although the interest attaching to it has lately been somewhat eclipsed by the claims of more gigantic operations in the Crimea, the field is one which must by no means be lost sight of, in a general survey of the pending struggle. Mr. Duncan has just produced a very intelligent narrative of the Asiatic campaign of the preceding year, the result of his personal observations, which supplies a deficiency hitherto remarked in the literature of the war.

With the prospect before us of the active co-operation of Western intelligence with Oriental arms and appliances, the revelations contained in Mr. Duncan's volumes will be read with great interest, and serve as a valuable guide for the future. Never were the incapacity, the venality, and the general misconduct of high Turkish officials more completely or more graphically exposed than in these pages—never was effect more clearly traced home to cause than the repeated disasters of the Ottoman troops to the vices of their leaders. On Mr. Duncan's arrival at Kars he found the army, which was perhaps 15,000 strong, commanded by no less than twenty-one Generals, each with the rank and pay of Pacha; and who mercilessly appropriated to themselves every plaster which found its way to the military chest, leaving their unfortunate subalterns and troops starving and unpaid. These Pachas, who for the most part had been advanced through the most unworthy influences, were continually quarrelling amongst themselves, and undermining each other's good name at the Seraskierat. As to fighting the enemy, such an idea never entered their heads; and on the only occasion when they were drawn into contest they were signally beaten. Only imagine one of these gentry excusing himself from the responsibility of one of these defeats by alleging that he was asleep at the time, and therefore knew nothing about it!

An additional source of contention and confusion has been created in recent times by the introduction of European officers into the service; men of various character and merit—some good, some bad, some indifferent—but all equally the objects of jealousy and hatred on the part of the Pachas, who forget their mutual animosities whenever there is an opportunity to combine against their common rival. Without going to other names, Mr. Duncan's pages afford a striking example of the working of this system, in the case of General Guyon, an Englishman by birth, but a Hungarian by circumstances and adoption, who, being called from Damascus for the purpose, undertook the task of reorganising the army at Kars. "By a great display of energy he succeeded in inspiring the soldiers with a little ardour, and gradually the confusion which reigned on his arrival, made way for order and discipline. He caused part of the contents of the military chest, which some of the Pachas had detained for their own use, to be paid to the soldiers, on account of their arrears; and took energetic steps to procure provisions for the starving and ill-treated troops, who but for his auspicious arrival, would have been disbanded and sent to their homes. The presence of the General," continues Mr. Duncan, "was at first hailed with satisfaction by the Turkish military authorities, who had despaired of the existence of their army; but gradually the national antipathy arose, and sentiments of jealousy prevailed over their judgment. The existence of Guyon was from that moment rendered one of torment. In his position as head of the Staff, Guyon possessed no actual power, nor could he dispose of a single regiment. His duties were confined to advising the commanding General, Zafir Mustafa Pacha; and that officer had established as a general rule to disregard the counsels offered him by General Guyon, and to execute without hesitation the measures which were disapproved by that officer." With the troops, including the subaltern officers, the "Magyar Pacha," by his affable manner, his deep sympathy, and his personal bravery, made himself justly beloved; but what availed that against a combination of Pachas?

This is a prejudice and a spirit of opposition which will have to be surmounted before the project of applying European discipline and military science to the army of the Porte can be successfully realised. Of the absolute importance of making the attempt, regardless of the intrigues and prejudices of caste, none can doubt who consider what has been effected by Omar Pacha, with Turkish troops, simply by good training and upright management; and who contrast the example set by those troops with the picture of wholesale disorganisation and inefficiency presented by the army of Kars, as described in the pages before us. As for the Turkish soldier himself, Mr. Duncan in numerous passages bears high testimony to his admirable qualities and conduct:—

In their present condition they are worthless, and totally unqualified to engage in the open field. By the introduction of a strict discipline, by an equitable system of promotion, and under the command of brave and honourable officers, the Turkish army could be raised to a point of excellence, second to no European force. The sobriety of the men, their simple wants, untiring patience, and power of resisting fatigue, offer the most splendid materials for creating an irresistible infantry. The men are both intelligent and courageous. A commander, in whom they possessed confidence, they would follow without hesitation or regret. And this confidence is facile to obtain. A few kind words, a display of interest in his welfare, and honesty of purpose, suffice to gain the poor Turk's heart for ever. The Turkish artillery is excellent, even in its present state, but is susceptible of great improvement. In the management of this arm the Turkish soldiers show great aptitude, and the pride of the men in their batteries, and the affection they display for their respective guns, is admirable. At the subsequent battle of Kurekdere, when infantry and cavalry were in headlong flight, and the Russian dragoons were hewing down the forsaken gunners at their pieces, the latter stood steadily by their cannon, and defended them to the last breath. The Turkish regular cavalry is utterly ridiculous, and is not in my conviction susceptible of amelioration. The idea of cavalry drawn up in line, and trained to charge and manoeuvre in a body, can never be realised by the Turk, whose military antecedents condemn that system. The irregular cavalry is, on the contrary, excellent.

And in another place he says:—

In the winter months, when the troops were suffering from famine and disease, and when the future appeared so gloomy and overcast, I recorded with a feeling of admiration the wonderful patience they exhibited. Now that they were comparatively well fed and happy, the same good behaviour was sustained. During my eight months' experience with this army, I did not once observe a disturbance or a quarrel; nor, to my knowledge, had any crime been committed in the camp. The men were good soldiers, they performed their duty with alacrity, were honourable and humane to each other, and devout in their religious ceremonies.

The services of the Bashi-bozouks also come in for honourable mention, although the author despairs of their ever being trained to usefulness as part of a regular army; and the experiment then being tried by General Beaton he predicts to be "a failure." These wild horsemen, however, at the time when the two camps were within five miles distance of one another, afforded the only exception to the general wasteful inactivity. Under General Kmeti they distinguished themselves so highly by their night skirmishes amongst the Russian outposts that the Muchir, or Turkish Field Marshal, proposed to the General to undertake a more important operation, promising to support him with regular troops. The proposal was joyfully accepted, and one feeling of satisfaction and emulation prevailed through the camp:—"The expectations of the troops and irregulars, however, were both doomed to bitter disappointment, for nothing was further from the Muchir's thoughts than to engage with the enemy. In fact, having drawn out his army to within an hour's distance from the Russian lines he commanded a halt. For nearly two hours the Turkish army remained in this humiliating position, and then the Muchir ordered the whole army to retreat." Thus were three hundred Bashi-bozouks basely sacrificed, a large proportion of them being mowed down with grape and round shot; the remainder, of course, who escaped "venting their rage against the cowardice of the Turkish commanders in no measured terms."

This is but one example out of many of Turkish warfare under Turkish commanders. The fault, however, clearly lying with the latter, there is every reason to hope for better things when a proper education and discipline throughout all the ranks of the service is established.

Amongst the principal positions in the present Asiatic war are Kars and Erzeroum, on the Turkish side (the latter depending on the former); and Gumri and Tiflis, on the Russian. Kars, which is now the point threatened with attack, would appear to be very ill prepared to resist a regular siege. The ancient walls which once surrounded the town have long since crumbled away, as well as the castle which crowned the heights. Early in the last campaign, however, General Guyon caused some redoubts, mounting forty-eight cannon, to be thrown up on the ridge of mountains known as the Karadagh, which commands the approach to the town, and these are the only means of defence it has now to rely on. On the other hand, Gumri, which lies at a distance of eighteen leagues from Kars, is strongly fortified with works in masonry, some of them casemated, and mounting 150 guns. Tiflis is situated in a plain, and is not

* "A Campaign with the Turks in Asia." By Charles Duncan, Esq. Two vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

fortified. Its defence against an attack of the mountain hordes of Schamyl would depend upon operations in the field. Mr. Duncan appears to attach very little importance, in a military sense, to these marauding incursions of the redoubtable Caucasian leader, the extent and consequence of which, he says, have always been much exaggerated.

It would be an impossibility (he says) for that chief to assemble and keep together any considerable force for a longer period than a week. If it were even in the power of Schamyl to provide food for his undisciplined force, his followers would nevertheless disperse—for it is for plunder, and plunder alone, that the Circassian Lesghien or Daghestanese, quits his mountain village. A single Russian Dragoon regiment, backed by a troop of Horse Artillery, would suffice to rout any force Schamyl could bring to Tiflis. Nobody is better aware of this than that chieftain himself, and he has displayed consummate wisdom in never having committed himself in any similar expedition.

Apart from the valuable information afforded in these volumes upon matters of essential and practical import, they will prove attractive reading to those who take pleasure in the lighter incidents of travel.

WATERSPOUT AT OXFORD.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Oxford:—"On Wednesday evening, the 25th ult., at six p.m., as we were sitting at dinner, at Headington-hill, the appearances here represented (Fig. 1) took place in the clouds. The first

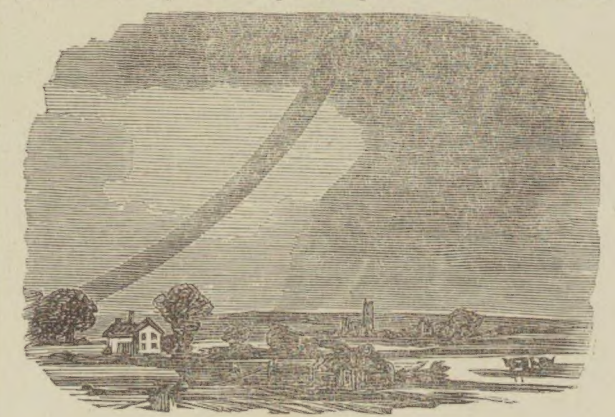


FIG. 1

appeared like a partly-broken scimitar; it was twice or thrice withdrawn into the cloud altogether, each time lengthening on its reappearance, till at last it touched the horizon, appearing like a monstrous scimitar (Fig. 2), the convex side furthest from the wind. This appearance continued for several minutes, when a light cloud passed across it, apparently about one-third up; it then separated, and the point from the horizon turned upwards, with the convex side to the wind (Fig. 3), and remained as strongly marked as before for several minutes, when the point dispersed, and the hilt was absorbed into the clouds."



FIG. 2



FIG. 3

Another Correspondent writes:—"At the moment of its breaking it appeared to be moving more rapidly than before, and the broken part seemed to have been dispersed into a mist, so that at first it was doubtful whether the apparent separation was not caused by an intervening cloud. The lower fragment, however, immediately enlarged its dimensions, and after appearing to roll for a few seconds, like a horizontal cylinder, it dispersed."

The cloud from which the Waterspout projected was thick and heavy with a well-defined and tolerably level under surface.

MEMORIAL OF MARY RUSSELL MITFORD.

HAVING from time to time devoted a portion of our space to the life and writings of Miss Mitford, we have now the utmost gratification in drawing the attention of our readers to the following Circular, in the sentiments of which we most cordially agree; and we cannot permit ourselves to suppose that such an appeal for such an object will not be responded to liberally by those for whose pleasure and improvement her gifted pen was so long and so earnestly devoted. Knowing something of the character of the gentlemen who form the Committee, we think we may on their behalf announce that the grateful shilling of the humble will be by them received with as much satisfaction as the larger contribution of the wealthy:—

It is proposed to erect to the memory of the authoress of "Our Village," &c., some memorial which shall testify the respect entertained by many, not only in England but in America, both for her literary talents and her private virtues.

There are, it cannot be doubted, thousands who owe to her writings a more genial and humane spirit, as well as a more truthful and intimate knowledge of English country life, and who look on her as holding a high rank among those writers who, since the appearance of the poems of Crabbe and Wordsworth, have investigated and pleaded the cause of the agricultural poor. Her private virtues are necessarily known to a smaller number, yet it is hoped that there are many who have been made wiser and better by beholding the sweetness and gentleness, the trust in God and man, and the heroic industry, which never failed this noble woman during years of poverty and sorrow, disease and pain, and every ill, save that of not loving and being beloved, which flesh is heir to.

It is hoped that funds may be provided for erecting a plain Monument over her grave, in the churchyard of that Village which she has made famous by her presence and her writings; to place in the church a tablet with a suitable inscription; and for building, if possible, a School, which, we understand, is much needed, at THREE MILE CROSS, to be dedicated by name to her memory.

Subscriptions for this purpose will be received by the Rev. W. Harness, Privy Council Office, Whitehall; F. Bennock, Esq., 77, Wood-street, Cheapside; the Rev. C. Kingsley, Eversley, Hants; George May, Esq., Castle-street, Reading; the Rev. Hugh Pearson, Sonning, Berkshire; and in America, by the eminent publishers, Ticknor, Fields, and Co., Boston, Massachusetts.

A SEASONABLE DELUGE.—Soon after five o'clock this morning a most violent storm of wind and rain commenced, and continues as I write. It will cause, I fear, much discomfort, if not actual damage, in the Camp, over which it rages with a combined fury and duration which I do not remember to have seen surpassed. The considerable portion of the Camp of which I command a view from my hut is converted into a lake, the rain descending faster than it can sink into the earth. Over the surface of this lake the rain is drifted in clouds by the driving wind, forming a sort of watery curtain, through which the soaked tents look dreary and dismal enough. Such as it is, however, their imperfect shelter has been sought; and one sees but here and there a drenched figure struggling through the blast. In the pens the mules and horses mournfully hang their heads, enduring with melancholy philosophy the inevitable and unwelcome *douche*; while in sundry nooks and corners, to the leeward of tents and under the eaves of huts, the Camp fowls have taken refuge, with drooping plumes, and that look of profound discomfort peculiar to poultry under difficulties. Down the numerous slopes of the Camp the water has made itself channels—which will not, however, I fear, prevent its finding its way into many of the semi-subterranean huts, to the great disturbance of their domestic economy. Even the furious war of the elements does not wholly suspend the strife of man, and from time to time, above the roar of the wind and the plash of the rain, the boom of a gun reaches us. As I write, however, the tempest passes over, the clouds fly seaward, the rain ceases, and already the Camp resumes its stir.—*Letter from the Camp, July 31.*

The Government, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee moved for by Mr. Mackinnon on the Arctic Expedition, have paid £5000 to Captain McClure, and the same sum to the Admiralty, for his officers and crew.

The confiscation of thirty-one estates belonging to the political refugees in the province of Venice, has been annulled by Austria.

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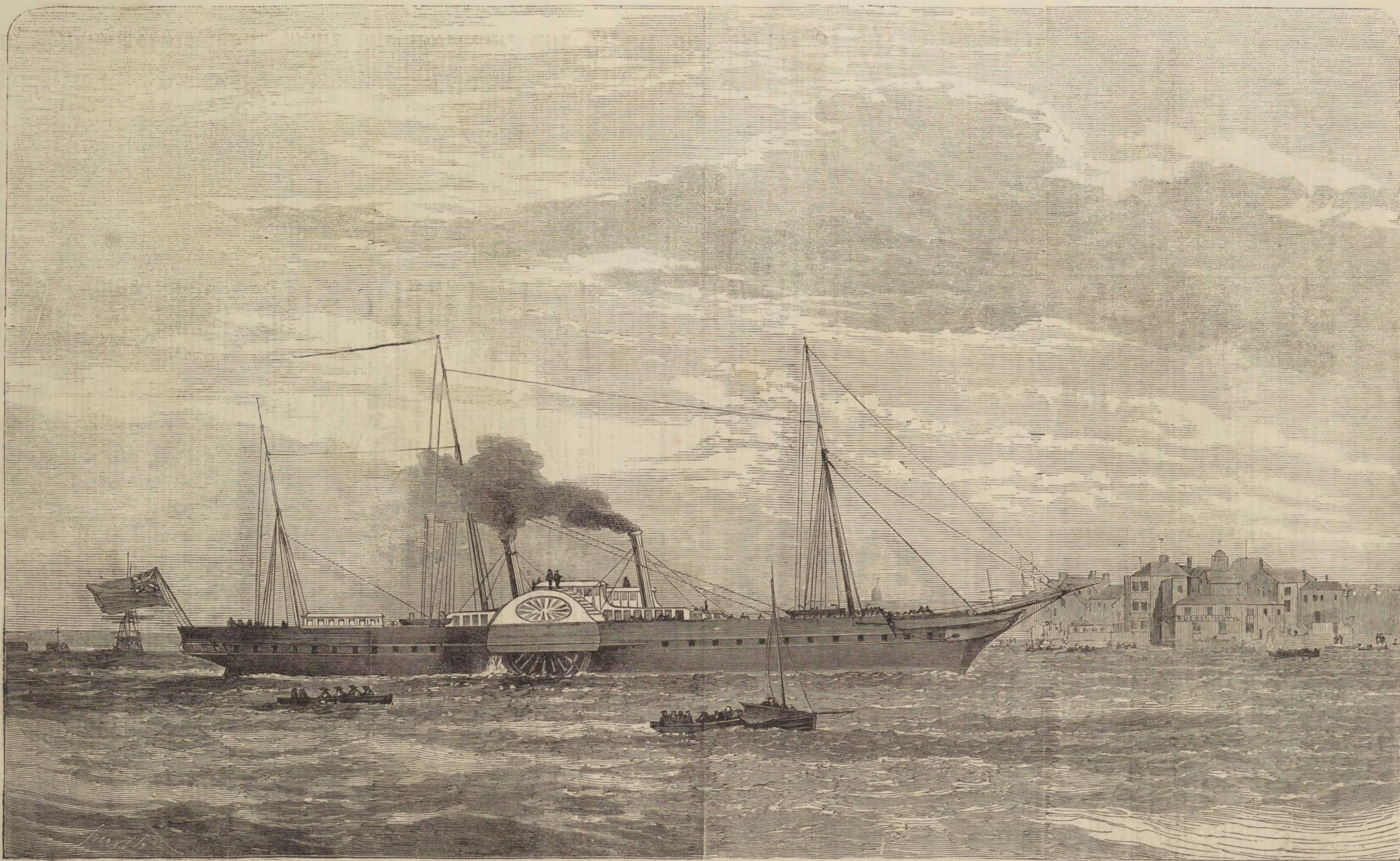
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large dining-room, 24 feet by 17 feet, glazed all round, and commanding an uninterrupted view to sea, and over the weather deck. From the interior of this saloon or hurricane-house a staircase descends to Royal apartments.

The State-cabin is 21 feet by 17 feet, and the Royal bed-chamber 19 feet by 14 feet, with a dressing-room at each end. The cabins are thoroughly ventilated, by means of pipes passing up through the ship's sides and terminating at the gunwale upon deck. On the orlop-deck beneath is situated the Royal nursery, and other cabins, for the use of her Majesty's suite. The fore-part of the vessel will be devoted to the berths of the officers and crew.

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